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## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

*A Grammar of the Irish Language, published for the use of the Senior Classes in the College of St. Columba.* By John O'Donovan, M.I.A.S. 8vo, pp. 459. Dublin, Hodges and Smith.

We have frequently been obliged, in our notices of books, to acknowledge our incompetency to the task of doing them justice; for they are sometimes above our comprehension, and occasionally beyond our critical polyglottic learning. The present volume belongs to the latter class; but we have taken the opinions of the best Irish scholars we know respecting it, and their uniform testimony is, that it is the most complete and valuable work upon the language that has been given to the public. It must consequently be of infinite service to antiquaries and philologists; and well does Mr. O'Donovan deserve the national thanks for having bestowed so much labour upon an undertaking not likely to be rewarded in a pecuniary sense by any thing like the remuneration due to its merits.

As we have hinted, the review of such a performance in our pages is impossible; yet there are many incidental matters which might be chosen as exemplary of the author, and for the information of literary readers. Thus:

"There are several short treatises on Irish grammar, in manuscript, by various writers in the seventeenth century, in the library of Trinity College, and one, by O'Mulconry, in that of St. Sepulchre's, Dublin; and we learn from the monument of Sir Mathew de Renzi, at Athlone, who died in 1635, that he composed a grammar, dictionary, and chronicle, in the Irish tongue. The first Irish book ever printed with instructions for reading Irish was John Kearney's 'Alphabetum et Ratio legendi Hibernicæ, et Catechismus in eadem Lingua,' 1571, 8vo. The only known copy of this curious and rare book is preserved in the Bodleian library, Oxford. The first printed Irish grammar is that of the Rev. Francis O'Molloy, written in Latin, and entitled 'Grammatica Latino-Hibernica, nunc compendiatæ,—authore Rev. P. Fr. Francisco O'Molloy, Ord. Min. Strict. Observantia, in Collegio S. Isidori S. Theol. Professore Primario, Lectoris Jubilato, et Provincie Hibernicæ in Curia Romana Agente Generali. Romæ, Typographia S. Cong. de Propag. Fide 1677.' It contains 286 pages 12mo, and is divided into twenty-five chapters, of which the first nine treat of the letters; the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth, of etymology, of which he treats but very slightly; the thirteenth chapter is on the oghams and contractions; and the remaining twelve, of the ancient Irish prosody, into which he enters very copiously."

Again:

"The dialects now spoken by the people differ considerably from each other, in words, pronunciation, and idiom, throughout the four provinces. The difference between them is pretty correctly expressed in the following sayings or adages, which are current in most parts of Ireland:

Tá blar san éapto 43 an Wujmheac;  
Tá éapto san blar 43 an Ulltác;  
Nj fujl éapto ná blar 43 an Lajmheac;

Tá éapto 43ur blar 43 an 3-Con-  
hacéac.

The Munsterman has the accent without the propriety;

The Ulsterman has the propriety without the accent;

The Leinsterman has neither the propriety nor the accent;

The Connaughtman has the accent and the propriety.

The antiquity of these national Irish sayings has not been determined; but they must be of considerable age, as they are paraphrased by Lombard in his work entitled 'De Regno Hibernicæ Commentarius,' published in 1632. • •

"The grand difference between the dialects of the present living language consists in the position of the accent, and in the pronunciation of the grammatical termination 43 in nouns and verbs, it being pronounced in Connaught and Ulster like 00, or úíh, in all dissyllables and polysyllables, but varied in Munster, being sometimes pronounced like 4 short, sometimes like 4c, and sometimes like 43. The minor differences consist in pronouncing h like j when coming after C, 3, and m, in the north and west. The Munster dialect is also remarkably distinguished by the pronunciation of 3 in genitive cases from é, and by throwing the primary accent on the second or third syllable when long. These peculiarities are pointed out in the orthography and prosody of the following Grammar with sufficient minuteness. The other dialects which shot off from the Gaelic of Ireland at an early period, are the Erse, or Gaelic of the Highlands of Scotland, and the Manx, or primitive language of the Isle of Man.

"The Highland Gaelic is essentially the same as the Irish, having branched off from it in the sixth century; but there are peculiarities which strongly distinguish it, though the spoken Irish of the north-east of Ulster bears a close resemblance to it in pronunciation and grammatical inflections.

"The Manx is much further removed from the Irish; and it is probable that the Isle of Man had inhabitants from Ireland long before the emigration of the Scots from Ireland to the coast of Argyle. Its words are principally obscured by being written as they are pronounced, without preserving the radical letters, as in the Irish. It also exhibits extraordinary corruptions, and approximations to the Welsh, of which the following are the most remarkable:

1. The nominative plural ends in n, as in the Erse and Welsh. 2. A final vowel is lost, as 'O Hiarn,' for O Thijéapn4, O Lord! dooys, for 44nj-44, to me, &c. 3. t is added to progressive active nouns derived from verbs, as choyrt, for cujt, putting. [This final t is also used in some words in Irish, as feicrjnt, for feicrjn.] 4. d is often put for 3, as dy bragh, for 30 br4c. 5. i is often written for c or 3, as tustey, for tuj3re, the understanding; festor, for feicrop, the evening, &c. 6. The final a or e of the passive participle is always dropped, as soillsit, foluit, for 30llrj3te, 30lluj3te, illumined, concealed. There are also many peculiarities of idiom, too numerous

to be even glanced at here; and some particles of constant occurrence are so strangely though analogically different from the Irish, that an Irish scholar would find it difficult to understand a Manx book without studying the language as a distinct dialect."

Of the Welsh, Mr. O'D. says:

"It may not be out of place here to make a few observations upon the analogies between the Cymric or Welsh and Scotie or Gaelic dialects, they being considered by some as cognate, and by others as belonging to a totally different family of language. That they are very remotely related is quite evident from the fact, that the Gaelic dialects of Ireland and Scotland, which separated from each other about the year of Christ 504, may be said to be still the same language: but that the Irish and Welsh were, at a still more remote period, the same language, will appear to any sober-minded philologist, on comparing the great number of words which are identical, or different only in analogical dialectic peculiarities in both languages, the almost perfect agreement of their mode of forming grammatical inflections, and even of their idioms, which are considered the soul of language. The number of words, not derived from the Latin, or Dances, in which they agree, having been already sufficiently shewn by Llwyd and others, it will, therefore, be enough to point out here how far they agree in grammatical inflections; for when this agreement is duly considered, it will, no doubt, impress the conviction, that nothing but relationship of people, and identity of dialect, could have caused it, be the period of separation ever so remote. To a casual observer, the difference between the grammatical inflections of both languages will appear to be very great, because the Welsh have adopted more of the letters of the Roman alphabet, by means of which, and of certain other combinations of their own invention, they write their words, throughout all the grammatical inflections, exactly as they are pronounced, without any regard to the preservation of the radical letters of the word; whereas the Irish, who have not adopted all the Roman letters, always write their words with the initial letters of the roots, and give notice of the grammatical influences, either by prefixing an adventitious consonant, or placing a mark of aspiration over or after the radical consonants."

Examples and illustrations of all these (and many other philological) positions are given, and the summing up of the question regarding the similarity of the two tongues is an amusing historical legend, which points beyond Repeal:

"The Welsh has a greater variety of distinct terminations to express the persons than the Irish, but the Irish is far more distinct in the future tense, and in having a present and consuetudinal tense in the active voice, which the Welsh wants altogether. The reader is referred to Dr. Pritchard's valuable work, entitled 'Eastern Origin of the Celtic Nations,' for the theory of the personal terminations of verbs, where he shews that the personal endings of the verbs in the Welsh language are abbreviated forms of the personal pronouns. Whether this agreement of the two languages

is owing to identity of race, or to an amalgamation of both nations in the third and fourth centuries, is a question not easily determined; but the probability is, that it is attributable to both. We are informed by Cormac Mac Cullenan, bishop of Cashel and king of Munster in the ninth century, that Crimthann Mor Mac Fidhaigh, monarch of Ireland (of the Munster or Heberian line), subdued the Britons, and established Irish colonies, and erected royal forts at Glastonbury and in Cornwall, and throughout the country; and that the Irish retained this power for a long time after the arrival of St. Patrick. It is not impossible, therefore, that it was at this period the Irish built the forts which the Welsh call *Celtir Guidelot*, or forts of the Gaels or Irish. Mr. Lhwyd says: 'There are none of the Irish themselves, that I know of, amongst all the writings they have published about the origin and history of their nation, that maintained they were possessed of England and Wales; and yet whoever takes notice of a great many of the names of rivers and mountains throughout the kingdom will find no reason to doubt but the Irish must have been the inhabitants when those names were imposed upon them.' It is not true, however, that no Irish writers attribute to their ancestors the conquest of Britain, though I believe the notice of it had not been published in Lhwyd's time. It is stated as follows in Cormac's Glossary, *voce Mogh Eime*: 'At the time that the sway of the Gaels was great over the Britons, they divided Albion between them in holdings, and each knew the habitation of his friends; and the Gaels did not carry on less agriculture on the east side of the sea than at home in Scotia [Scotia], and they erected habitations and regal forts there; *inde dicitur Dinn Tradui*, i. e. the triple-fossed fort of Crimthann Mor Mac Fidhaigh, king of Erin, Alba, and as far as the Iccian sea; *et inde est Glastimber na n-Gedhal* [Glastonbury of the Gaels], a large church which is on the brink of the Iccian sea, &c. And it was at the time of this division also, that Dinn Map Lethain, in British Cornwall, received its name, i. e. Dun mic Leathain, for Map in the British is the same as *nuc*. And they continued in this power for a long time after the arrival of St. Patrick. It was at this time Coipre Musc was dwelling in the east [of the Channel], with his family and friends, &c.'

There is a chapter on versification, which will well repay the general reader for its perusal; and also some curious illustrations of the language in the ancient Brehon laws. But we have left ourselves little room for farther extract. There are "three kinds of verse in Irish, viz. *Dan Direach*, *Ogliachas*, and *Brúilleageacht*." Some of the rules are remarkable, as, for instance, in the *Rannaigheacht bheag*, in which "every line must end with a word of two syllables;" whereas, "*Casbhairn* requires seven syllables in each line, and is particularly distinguished from all the species of verse already described by this characteristic, namely, that every line must terminate with a word of three syllables. It requires also concord, correspondence, and union."

The following is the only example we can give of the translation from the Brehon laws. It is from a MS. tract in Trinity College, Dublin,—but we cannot be reconciled to its accuracy, or that such law could ever exist:

"Bark for tanning [a pair of] shoes, or a bride, as told in the books: there is an inherent right to strip it from a neighbouring tree, so as it is not exceeded. If it is exceeded,

however, if it be bark for tanning a cow-hide that is stripped, the penalty is two women's shoes worth half a screpall. If it be bark for an ox-hide that is stripped, two men's shoes worth a screpall is the penalty. And this is when not one-third of the round of the tree has been stripped; and should a third be stripped, it is equal to the full circumference in the killing months, or to half the circumference in the months which do not kill the tree. And if less than the full circumference has been stripped, the proportion of the circumference which has been stripped is the proportion of the full penalty which shall be paid in the killing months, and of half penalty in the months which do not kill the tree. Or, where the fine is a screpall, or half a screpall, the bark was stripped off many trees, whether they were stripped with necessity or without necessity, or, this is when they were stripped from necessity. And if it be without necessity, then the rule is, that the case be referred to the 'killing or unkilling months.' The following is the summary of all this. If it be a notch that is made in the tree, the proportion of the tree that is stripped is to regulate the amount of full penalty in a killing month, or half penalty in a month which does not kill."

*The Note-Book of a Naturalist.* By E. P. Thompson. Pp. 275. Smith, Elder, and Co.

EVEN compilations upon natural history are interesting and welcome to every class of the community; for though much must be old and familiar, there is generally some portion new, and for that, however scanty, we are thankful, and it makes the repetitions go down. For all nature is dear to human nature. There is not the leaf of a plant, nor the limb of an insect, nor the tint of a shell or flower, nor the form of an inanimate object, nor the motion of a point, nor the movement of a mass, nor the darkening of a shade, nor the action of a created being, which does not convey a sense of pleasure to the observant mind. To investigate the most minute is a pursuit of high enjoyment. But the gratification is not confined within these bounds, nor trammelled by philosophy or science. The most illiterate, and the farthest removed from the sources of indulgence, are, in their way, as apt to be delighted as the best informed. A butterfly may be to them a butterfly, and nothing more; but it is a thing of beauty, and, to be admired, without a notion of its three modes of existence. And, in like manner, a whale (when they see one) is a wonder, a bear or a camel a curiosity, and a monkey the most diverting of mimics. And for actual zoology, their own cats and dogs, their little birds, whose songs are so sweet, and the parrots they hear talk so sagaciously, are each in their vocations pleasurable. As for botany, the window-pots, or a nosegay now and then, are not studies but delights for weeks and months. Entomology, as connected with cities, we shall say nothing about, for there are other creeping and leaping things as well as flies, wasps, midges, and bluebottles.

Yet every thing proves the universality of the passion with which learned and unlearned receive every sort of information relating to the world around. White of Selborne, Bewick, Huber, Kirby and Spence, Yarrell, Jardine, Reeve, Waterhouse, Jesse, and many other writers, will always be popular; and the author of this modestly-styled "Note-Book" assuredly deserves to come within the same category, for he not only possesses and communicates the necessary scientific intelligence to impart a scientific value, but he has travelled far and near,

and from very infancy been devoted *cou amore* to the freemasonry of natural history, which operates so beneficially on every habit and condition of life.

The gossip of an individual of this description is consequently as interesting as the information is instructive; and we rely on the following quotations to support our opinion of the very agreeable and various character of this volume. It opens with an essay, and thus:

"The advantages arising from a study of natural history are so important, that we cease to wonder that men possessed of great mental powers and discernment should have devoted their time and attention to endeavour, by promoting the knowledge of its various branches, to add to the comfort and happiness of their fellow-men. Towards the extension of this most desirable object, costly libraries and well-stored museums have been established, and now grace our principal towns; and without such aid, how could we hope to investigate, or become in the slightest degree acquainted with any portion of the 80,000 species of living beings already described, the thousands of others known to exist, and the tens of thousands which in all probability remain to be discovered? In a national point of view the benefits are incalculable, since from one branch or other of this science our food, our clothing, and every domestic convenience, are derived; commerce is extended, and daily discoveries add to its increase; civilisation is promoted, and the intercourse of man placed on a more friendly and, consequently, on a firmer footing. There is a peculiar interest attached to natural history, even when pursued as a mere recreation, or without any view of benefiting others by our observations. The charm which it throws on a summer's walk, or even on a simple turn in the garden; the habits of quick observation which it excites in the youthful mind, or the expansion it gives to the heart in more mature life; all these, and many more of its attractions, have been enlarged upon and illustrated by able pens."

Unlike the paltry productions of man, all the minute parts of these works of God appear in greater perfection, and afford to us a greater degree of admiration, the more minutely and accurately they are examined. M. de Lisle saw, with a microscope, a very small insect, that in one second of time advanced three inches, taking five hundred and forty steps; and many of the discoveries of Leuwenheek were even still more wonderful than this. If, from the contemplation of microscopic objects, we turn our attention to animals, we shall find them calculated in every way, and in the best possible manner, for the climates in which they reside, and for their separate and peculiar modes of life."

Going into particulars, we are told:

"A singular circumstance connected with a kestrel occurred at Dover some short time since. The common guillemot (*Uria troile*) breeds in considerable quantities in the cliffs to the eastward of the town, where they are rarely disturbed, excepting by some adventurer lowering himself from above to take eggs, or by some gunner anxious to try his dexterity from below. In the present instance a kestrel, soaring along the surface of the cliff, bore off a squab guillemot from its nest in one of the ridges. This, from the weight of the young bird, was a matter of some difficulty, and enabled the old one, which had taken the alarm and become desperate in defence of its young, to come speedily up to the kestrel, when a sharp contest began between them. The hawk, burdened as he was and determined to keep his prey, was bent

on retreat; the guillemot, therefore, notwithstanding the awkwardness of its flight, was enabled to push him hard, and annoy him so much, that, in self-defence, he was compelled to drop the young one, which fell unhurt on the beach below. Then began the battle in good earnest: in a straight line the guillemot had the decided mastership, by charging the hawk *à posteriori* with its sharp bill, and apparently with some success, as the flying feathers indicated. But these attacks always finished by the hawk soaring upward, and then stooping at its opponent. The watchfulness with which the guillemot avoided these charges, and availed itself of the hawk being again undermost to renew the engagement, was highly interesting; and from the vigour with which it pushed its foe on these occasions the victory seemed to be safe; but at last, one unlucky stoop made by the hawk, from a considerable height, struck the poor guillemot with such violence that it could not recover its flight, and came tumbling to the beach alive and unhurt, but so much exhausted that it was picked up, and now, with its young one, forms a portion of my cabinet."

The migration of birds is next discussed; and we read of the *Anas olor*, or mute swan:

"Previous to the breaking up of the ice in the Gulf of Finland in the spring of the year, they arrive in large flocks, and continue about its edges awaiting its total dissolution, when hundreds may be seen collected together feeding. They are wary, and exceedingly difficult of approach; but I once had an opportunity of getting almost among them. I was shooting wild fowl in the gulf with a friend, one evening in the middle of May, in one of Colonel Hawker's punts carrying a large swivel gun, when, in the middle of our sport, we heard the distant hooping of swans. The inducement to follow was too great; and allowing our canoe to drift towards them, we could soon see that we were approaching a flock of at least one hundred and fifty birds, but, notwithstanding our precautions by lying on our faces, and suffering the boat to drift of its own accord almost, we could perceive that they were alarmed, and not being provided with swan-shot, it was necessary that we should get as near as possible. At last they rose, and I fired, but none fell, though we plainly heard the shot rattle among them. It was beautiful to see them rise on the wing simultaneously, beating the water with their wings for many yards, and throwing up a complete spray before they were fairly in flight. The paddles of twenty steamers could not have made more noise; indeed, the passengers in a steamboat, coming up the gulf at a great distance, distinctly heard the rush, without either seeing them or hearing the report of the gun. As the season advances, they disappear entirely for more northern parts for the purpose of breeding. At this season snipe and woodcock shooting is in great perfection, particularly as they assemble at their breeding places. The former are by no means solitary in their habits, for hundreds of couples may be found in a morass of thirty or forty acres; and, as regards the latter, the sportsman need only station himself in the centre of a heath common towards evening, when the male birds are making their flights, uttering a kind of bleating sound. Bewick is wrong when he states, that these birds 'must have the instinctive precaution of landing only in the night, or in dark, misty weather, for they are never seen to arrive,'—in allusion to the period of their migrating to this country. That a vast quantity do arrive by night is undeniable, for the lighthouse-keepers on the Kentish coast often pick them up dead

in the morning, from their having flown against the lights and destroyed themselves—a proof of the rapidity of their flight; and it is a common custom for that dubious race of sportsmen termed gunners to pass under the cliffs at daylight to pick up those birds which, from fatigue, have been unable to clear the heights till they have rested. I have known fourteen couple to be killed of a morning. The birds prefer a moonlight night, with wind at north-east; and with the wind in that quarter, I have often seen them arrive in the daytime. They fly rapidly, and in an undeviating straight line, and apparently regardless of obstacles. One was brought to me which was seen to fly against the banking-house of a firm at Dover, dead, and with its bill broken by the concussion: a bird evidently of unbusiness-like habits, to present its bill in that fashion. Two others, at about the same period, flew so close over the heads of some soldiers on parade, that they involuntarily raised their muskets as they passed over them, to the scandal of the drill-sergeant. Of all the phenomena connected with migration, one of the most astonishing is, that certain land-birds leave us in the spring to nidificate in other countries—a fact to be accounted for only, as I have before stated, by looking to higher causes. \* \* \*

"Travellers in the north of France cannot but perceive the almost total absence of birds in that district. The country is open, and rarely broken by a hedge-row; and thus, shelter being denied them, they seek more favoured spots. The effect is as obvious as it is injurious, for there is no limit set to the ravages of the caterpillar or the destruction of the grub. The *Pontia rapae*, or small cabbage-butterfly, swarms to an extent which must be seen to be believed. I have seen many hundreds on the wing at one time. The *Scarabeus melonotha*, too, flies in myriads, and there are no nooks to follow the plough. The cuckoo, which collects about the coast before it takes its final flight towards the end of July, ceases its cry before that date. I find that it is totally silent by the 7th of July, and that for some days previously it utters a broken cry, repeating the first syllable several times, thus, cuc, cuc, cuc, cuc, cuckoo, in a hurried and confused manner, as if conscious of the irregularity, and attempting to correct itself. On these occasions it is always perched, while at other times it often cries while on the wing. The life and habits of the cuckoo are paradoxical, and this strange peculiarity in its note is not less so. The Royston crow (*Corvus cornix*) alone, of all the land-birds which migrate to this country, never leaves the coast to any great distance. Its appearance in any of the inland counties is never known. The waxen chatters, grosbeaks, and crossbills, rarely visit us except in the severest winters, and then they are by no means abundant, remaining principally, in their partial migration from the north, in the fir-woods of Germany: they are most abundant in Russia, and are sold in large quantities in the markets, during the autumn, as an article of food, with bullfinches, crossbills, and even woodpeckers."

The robin has deservedly a chapter to himself:—"He is bold, fearless, and quarrelsome, arrogating to himself a little spot or district, within the limits of which he will allow none others of his species to intrude without offering the most violent opposition. Its combativeness on these occasions blinds it to its own safety, as I particularly witnessed in an affray between two of them at Margate. They fell foul of each other on the Parade, the most frequented part of the town; and after struggling on the ground

together at the feet of the passengers, they rose in the air still continuing the conflict till they fell into the harbour, it being high tide. They were extricated by a boy, who took them up still clinging most pertinaciously to each other."

Whilst speaking of nests, we are informed:—"The wood-pigeon occasionally builds on the ground: I have found its nest with young when shooting early in September, which would doubtless be the second brood. The rook and crow do not begin to build their nests in Russia till the end of March; and even there, as with us, they are the first in the field. With the exception of the martin and the stork, it is perhaps the only bird which retains a predilection for its old nest, which it revisits at intervals, during the autumn, to fortify and repair against the future season. Instinct in general is not prescient, but immediate; it is not acted on by calculations of events, but there is some exciting cause which calls it forth. In this economy of the rook, instinct assumes the character of forethought, common in some hibernating animals as regards their collection of food, but excelling them in this remarkable attention to the future wants of their progeny."

Going through many races of animals, the following observations may be selected as among the happy illustrations of the subject:

"Anatomy reveals to us the principles of motion in animals; but we are left to our own observations and conclusions for ascertaining why the modes of progression vary, not only in the different races of animals, but also among those of the same species. That this has not been done without some wise dispensation of Providence, we may rest well assured, although the cause may neither seem obvious to us nor absolutely necessary to the animal, as far as our limited judgment may extend. Difference in formation naturally produces and explains one great cause; but the reason generally is not so well marked, although in some instances we find that the movement of the animal is peculiarly adapted to its manner of feeding. The hare tribe, with its short neck and long hind-legs, would feed with difficulty in any other than a squatting position, which the nature of its food seems also to render requisite; and as its only safety consists in flight, this very attitude is the best which could be adopted to put it rapidly in motion. It is in the walk that the peculiarity of movement in quadrupeds exists. The horse and deer move each leg alternately; but the ox and giraffe advance by moving the two legs of the same side of the body successively. In neither instance does it appear that this difference assists the animal in procuring food; for the horse and ox browse alike, and the giraffe depends on its long neck to reach the branches from above. In opposition to the usual pace of other dogs, the Newfoundland waddles with a sidelong step; and yet, when he swims, his motion is not distinguished by that peculiarity. Whence these exceptions? The fact is a singular feature in animal economy. The elephant is the only quadruped which has the power of bending its hind-legs into a kneeling position: but this is obvious; for other animals, in lying down, bend the fore-legs, and draw the hinder ones forward; but the elephant, from his vast bulk and the length of his tusks, could not accomplish this without falling heavily or driving his tusks into the earth, and thus a different construction was necessary to him. The camel, again, is endowed with a striking peculiarity; for as it never lies on its side, but rests and sleeps with its knees bent under its body, and its breast upon the ground, these parts require to be par-



ticularly guarded and strengthened: it is therefore furnished with seven callosities, upon which it besides throws the weight of its body, both in assuming its attitude of repose and in getting up. These consist of one on the breast, two on each of the fore-legs, and one on each of the hind. Ignorance and atheism have sought to assert that these marks are the hereditary effects of labour, as a tight shoe will produce a corn; but although the young camel is born with them, it is not ventured to be asserted that a child is born with corns because its parent has a bunion; as well might it be said that, because shepherd's dogs are invariably deprived of their tails, their puppies are produced without them."

The next topic to which we shall allude is instinct; and we are tempted to quote:

"When coursing on the heath-commons in Surrey, I have often noticed a favourite greyhound take its stand on the top of the highest ground it could find, with its ears erect and its eyes gleaming with animation, watching every movement, and ready for immediate pursuit, availing itself thus of its almost only chance of seeing the hare among the high heath and fern. Other dogs watch on the outside of the copse or shaw for the same purpose. This is a high order of instinct, and sufficiently proves that the animal justly calculates on its own powers, and places itself exactly in the position where they will be available. A black retriever I possessed, one of the almost extinct race, was endowed with more than ordinary sagacity. I directed him, on one occasion, to fetch me a small billet of wood which was floating on the sea, about twenty yards from the shore, as a buoy to the anchor of a small boat. He tugged and dragged, in vain of course, when suddenly he dived to remove the obstacle, and continued doing so for so long a time, that I saw he was exhausted by his efforts; and not being able to make him hear me, from the noise of the waves, I was forced to launch a small boat and take him in, literally to prevent his becoming a victim to his courage and stanchness."

We dare say our readers will consider these extracts miscellaneous enough; but what will they say, when we state to them that they have only conducted to Mr. Thompson's own concluding "Miscellanea," which we reserve for future extract.

## CENTO.

*The Poets and Poetry of Europe.* By H. W. Longfellow. 8vo, double columns. Pp. 779. Philadelphia, Carey and Hart.

ACCOMPANIED by brief biographies, and a few critical remarks, this "big book," though not a square one, contains an enormous mass of poetry,—Anglo-Saxon, Icelandic, Danish, Swedish, German (of all ages), Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese. To this vast *mélange* between four and five hundred authors contribute; and the translations are copied from many published sources, and principally from reviews and magazines, with some originally executed by Mr. Longfellow. Of such a collection all we need say is, that it is an ample storehouse of verse, of very various merit, and exhibits national characteristics in general as accurately as they can be reflected from the mirror of another language. We select one specimen to point our remarks:

"The German Night-Watchman's Song.

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Eight, good sirs, has struck.  
Eight souls alone from death were kept  
When God the earth with deluge swept:

Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Nine, good sirs, has struck.  
Nine lepers cleansed returned not;—  
Be not thy blessings, man, forgot!  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Ten, good sirs, has struck.  
Ten precepts shew God's holy will;—  
O may we prove obedient still!  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Eleven, good sirs, has struck.  
Eleven apostles remained true;—  
May we be like that faithful few!  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Twelve, good sirs, has struck.  
Twelve is of time the boundary;—  
Man, think upon eternity!  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of One, good sirs, has struck.  
One God alone reigns over all;  
Naught can without his will befall:  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Two, good sirs, has struck.  
Two ways to walk has man been given;  
Teach me the right,—the path to heaven!  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Three, good sirs, has struck.  
Three Gods in one, exalted most,  
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Unless the Lord to guard us deign,  
Man wakes and watches all in vain.  
Lord, through thine all-prevailing might,  
Do thou vouchsafe us a good night!

Hark! while I sing, our village clock  
The hour of Four, good sirs, has struck.  
Four seasons crown the farmer's care;  
Thy heart with equal toil prepare!  
Up, up! awake, nor slumber on!  
The morn approaches, night is gone!  
Thank God, who by his power and might  
Has watched and kept us through this night!"

*Fortune, and other Poems, &c.* By Hope. Pp. 126. Pickering.

WITHOUT the *incog*. "Hope" on the title-page, we must have decided this to be the effort of a young author. There is talent, and all the blemishes of immaturity and want of polish. We quote one of the most unobjectionable passages.

"As soon as Fortune lends her book to man,  
So soon does he forget where he began;  
Each rising page conceals what he has seen,  
Shews where he is, and not where he has been:  
The scenes of yesterday are but a mass,  
That cannot now be seen but through a glass.  
The friends of yesterday are now forgot:  
He knew them then, but now he knows them not!  
From twenty pounds a year to twenty more,  
His pride takes forty steps, his purse, a score:  
From that, to hundreds, and from that, to more."

Then we read this distich:

"Of all the ills that Fortune deals below,  
Poverty is felt the heaviest blow."

Prosaic enough; but *Fortune* is not a dealer in "ills"—she makes mistakes, but cannot be the bestower of poverty. Again, merely to shew that the corrective is wanting:

"In wisdom's seat there lived an honest pair,  
Known to the world as Diligence and Truth;  
And though mortality hath tomb'd their care,  
They've left a precept both to man and youth."

"Man" and "youth" are not even poetical opponents—age would have been the correct. Only one more *lapsus* (of a hundred):

"One crust at length from pleasure's tray  
His gratitude undress'd;  
For every feature seemed to say,  
'May you enjoy the rest!'"

*The Maxims of Francis Guicciardini.* Translated by Emma Martin, &c. Pp. 158. London, Longmans.

IT was of this celebrated Italian historian the anecdote was related, that when some courtiers of the Emperor Charles V. complained of his preferring him and his fellow Florentines to them, the sagacious monarch replied, "I can make a hundred Spanish grandees in a minute, but I cannot make one Guicciardini in a hundred years!" The translator gives parallel passages: so will we.

"The king can make a belted knight,  
A marquis, duke, and a' that;  
But an honest man's aboon his might,  
Gude faith, he manna fa' that!"—Burns.

It is above three hundred years since these Maxims were written, and it is curious to observe how many of them have been reiterated since then by individuals of great name, such as Machiavel, Lord Bacon, Pascal, Rochefoucault, Montesquieu, Fox, Burke, Talleyrand, Guizot, and others. Penetration and wisdom, no doubt, suggested the same ideas to thousands of human beings, both before and after the period of Guicciardini; and from Plato, Aristotle, Confucius, Pythagoras, and Seneca, to Shakspeare, Hobbes, Reid, Dugald Stewart, and living authors of our own day, similar reflections have been coined from the original mints of philosophic minds. But in many cases it is easy to trace the sage saying to the present source; and to be convinced of the careful study bestowed by very eminent persons upon the golden rules now given to the English in this little volume. And let us note *en passant* that the frame-work is congenial to the literature it contains. It is in the old-fashioned style, wooden boards neatly and antiquesly ornamented, a portrait of the Albert Durer kind, black-letter running titles, the pages squared in lines, with marginal indexes, and, in short, all the fanciful accompaniments which make us like the author better from his appearing as it were in the dress of his time.

But we must look to the matter, and not say more of the manner; and for its inherent merits recommend the book to the public. A biography of the author is prefixed, and then a hundred and fifty-eight of his axioms, political, religious, moral, and social, are communicated, with resembling passages from the subsequent writers, &c. to whom we have alluded. Of the quality of these *dicta*, the following selection will suffice to afford a notion; and some, it will be seen, are profoundly just and right, whilst others belong rather more loosely to the school of selfishness and expediency. Kingcraft has been exposed in other works; and there is occasionally a pretty obvious exposure of democrat-craft in this, worthy of the free citizen of the free city of Florence in the sixteenth century. *Ex. gr.:*

"It commonly happens in our city that he who is most eager in forwarding another's greatness, this done, quickly becomes his enemy. The cause is said to be, that these being commonly persons of rank, and high spirit, and restless, when another is great they grow sus-

picious. Another may be added, that such, thinking themselves entitled to much, often require more from him whom they have helped to rise, than is fitting; which not being yielded to them, they are offended; hence often is hatched enmity, and suspicion on both sides."

*A Parallel.*—"From which comes a general rule, such as never, or scarce ever, fails, that he who hath caused another's power, perishes, for he hath caused that power either with his labour or with his strength, and both are suspected by him who hath power."—*Machiavelli, The Prince*, chap. iii.

The 27th maxim, on dissimulation, is omitted—we cannot tell why, not having the Italian to refer to. It seems odd to mutilate an author by cutting a joint of his little toe or finger off. But to proceed:

"Whoever doth speak of the people doth speak of a madman; for it is a monster full of confusion and error, and its judgments are no nearer to the truth than, Ptolemy tells us, Spain is to the Indies."

"The nature of the multitude is no more to be blamed than the nature of princes; for all alike err, when all have no check upon erring."—*Machiavelli*.

There is much prudence in the next:

"When thou shalt have the opportunity of a thing thou dost desire, lose no time to seize it; for the things of this world change so often, that no man can say he hath a thing until he grasp it. And when any thing which displeases thee be proposed, seek to put it off as long as thou art able; for we see every day that time brings forth chances which may free thee from that trouble; and thus is that saying of the sages to be understood, Profit by Time's vantage." And Lord Bacon says: "Fortune is like the market, where many times, if you can stay a little, the price will fall. And again, it is sometimes like Sibylla's offer, which at first offereth the commodity at full, then consumeth part and part, and still holdeth up the price. For Occasion (as it is in the common verse) turneth a bald noddle, after she hath presented her locks in front, and no hold taken."

"I have constantly observed this method, in my divers governments, that when a cause hath been brought before me, which, for some sufficient reason, I was desirous to accommodate, I did never speak of accommodation; but interposing different delays and obstacles, I caused that the parties themselves did seek it; thus, in due time, I have been besought for that very thing which, if I had proposed it at the first, had been rejected."

"Understanding does not always drive onward like an arrow. The mind sometimes, by making a halt and going round for advice, hits the mark much better than if she had let fly directly upon it."—*Marcus Antoninus, Meditations*, book viii. lx., Collier.

"I have desired honour and profit, as other men do; and until now, I return thanks to God, and to my good fortune, I have gained even more than I sought for. *Et tamen* when I have obtained that which I did desire, I have not experienced any of those enjoyments and satisfactions therein which I had imagined to myself; which, if it were well considered, is enough to extinguish many of the desires of men."

"*Avant de désirer fortement une chose, il faut examiner quel est le bonheur de celui qui la possède.*"—*Rochejancourt, Maximes Morales, Désir*.

"Things which are desired by the general do scarce ever happen. The reason of this is, that it is the few which commonly give the turn

to affairs, and little will have they to what the many wish."

"All direction of public humour and opinion must originate in a few. . . . I never yet knew an instance of any general temper in the nation that might not have been tolerably well traced to some particular persons."—*Burke, Correspondence*, vol. ii. pp. 48-49; Letter to the Marquis of Rockingham.

"Time was, when I thought I should never see, *etiam* by much thinking, what I saw not at once; but experience hath shewed me this to be most false; wherefore mock at whoever shall tell thee otherwise. For the more thou dost toss and turn things in thy mind, the better are they planned and put into action."

"Endeavour to gain thyself friends; for they are good in places, times, and chances which thou wouldest never have thought of; and though this maxim be of the vulgar, yet none can thoroughly consider the value thereof but he who hath chanced, in his need, to feel it by experience."

"Beware of every thing which may do thee hurt and can do thee no good; wherefore neither in absence, neither in presence of another, ever say, without necessity, things which may displease him; because it is foolishness to make enemies without purpose; and I give thee this maxim because scarce any one but errs in this childishness."

The next savours strongly of the Machiavellian school:

"It is an honourable thing to a man to promise nothing but what he is determined to observe, yet commonly all those whom thou deniest, *etiam* justly, are dissatisfied; because men do not allow reason to have their governance. The contrary happens to him who doth promise; because many chances intervene, which occasion that there is no need to make proof of what thou hast promised; and thus thou hast given satisfaction as to the will, and if, indeed, it doth come to the deed, often excuses are not wanting; and many have so coarse a wit, that they will let themselves be juggled with words. Nevertheless, it is so base a thing to fail in a man's word, that this doth overbalance every utility which may be drawn from the contrary. And therefore a man ought to endeavour to amuse as much as he can with general replies, and those full of good hope; but of such sort as that they do not positively oblige him."

A gleam of the light darting in upon the dark age:

"A prince who should wish to take away the credit of the astrologers, which print their universal schemes, would have no more easy method than to command, that when their scheme for the coming year be printed, the scheme for the last year be printed with it. Because people, when they read over again how little they have hit of the past, would be constrained to give no faith to what they say of the future; whereas reading only the future, and having forgotten the falsehoods of the past, the natural curiosity which people have to know what is to come to pass doth readily incline them to lend them faith."

The next observations are very acute:

"When no man can tell me the author of the tidings, and they be likely, or such as are looked for, I give them little faith; because men readily invent that which is expected or is credited. I give more ear to any strange or unlooked-for tidings, because men are less apt to invent or to persuade themselves of that which is in no man's thoughts. I have many times seen proof of this."

"In war no enterprise is so easy to you as

one the enemy thinks impossible."—*Machiavelli, History of Florence*, book v.

"I once heard a friar say, that a man should have more credit from one ducat kept in his purse than from ten that he should spend. This saying is to be noted, not to the growing sordid, neither to the failing in honourable and reasonable expenses, but as a bridle upon thee from superfluous disbursings."

"There is no doubt but that avarice doth creep the more upon a man the older he doth grow; and the cause is commonly said to be, that his spirit doth decrease; but I think that this reason holds not. For that is a very ignorant old man that doth not see that the older he grows the less need hath he of money; and moreover, I see that the other vices of old men also continually increase. Wherefore I think the true reason to be, that the longer a man lives, the more doth he grow familiar with the things of this world, *et ex consequenti*, the more doth he love them."

"The same reason is cause that the older a man doth grow, the more is death irksome to him; and more and more, both outwardly and inwardly, doth he live as he were certain never to die."

Now these examples must suffice to introduce and represent this very acceptable volume, which, both for its external and internal deserts, deserves to lie on every table; and we bid it farewell, with a quotation in honour of true and genuine lovers of literature and men of letters, in which we most cordially concur.

"He doth err who says, Letters and studies waste men's brain; for it may perhaps be true where it is not sound; but where letters find Nature good, they make her perfect. For natural talents, joined to talents which a man may get, do make an admirable mixture."

*Punch's Pocket-Book for 1846.*

TOGETHER with the usual almanac referential matter, and conveniences for memoranda, &c., this Annual presents us with fun both graphic and literary. Some of the bits are very laughable and entertaining; but, upon the whole, the humour is hardly so racy as might be expected from the wag-subjects of the hero of the comic opera, the model of Don Juan, and the first who introduced animals upon the modern stage. The following is a sample of the whimsical articles:

"*Tied up.*—This morning, April 1, at half-past eleven precisely, the unfortunate young man, Mr. Edwin Pinkney, underwent the extreme penalty of infatuation, by expiating his attachment to Mary Anne Gale in front of the altar-railings of St. Mary's Church, Islington. It will be in the recollection of all those friends of the parties who were at the Jones's party at Brixton two years ago, that Mr. Pinkney was there, and there first introduced to Mary Anne, to whom he instantly began to direct particular attentions—dancing with her no less than six sets that evening, and handing her things at supper in the most devoted manner. From that period commenced the intimacy between them which terminated in this morning's catastrophe. Poor Pinkney had barely attained to his twenty-eighth year; but there is reason to believe that, but for reasons of a pecuniary nature, his single life would have come earlier to an untimely end. A change for the better, however, having occurred in his circumstances, the young lady's friends were induced to sanction his addresses, and thus to become accessories to the course for which he had just suffered. The unhappy man passed the last night of his bachelor existence in his solitary cham-

ber. From half-past eight to ten he was busily engaged in writing letters. Shortly after ten o'clock, his younger brother Henry knocked at the door, when the doomed youth told him in a firm voice to come in. On being asked when he meant to go to bed, he replied, 'Not yet.' The question was then put to him how he thought he should sleep; to which his answer was, 'I don't know.' He then expressed a desire for a cigar and a glass of grog, which were supplied him. His brother, who sat down and partook of the like refreshment, now demanded if he would want any thing more that night. He said, 'Nothing,' in a firm voice. His affectionate brother then rose to take leave; when the devoted one considerably advised him to take care of himself. Precisely at a quarter of a minute to seven, the next morning, the victim of Cupid, having been called according to his desire, rose and promptly dressed himself. He had the self-control to shave himself without the slightest injury; for not even a scratch upon his chin appeared after the operation. It would seem that he had devoted a longer time to his toilet than usual. The wretched individual was attired in a light-blue dress-coat, with frosted metal buttons, a white waistcoat and nankeen trousers, with patent leather boots. He wore round his neck a variegated satin scarf, which partially concealed the Corazza of his bosom. In front of the scarf was inserted a breast-pin of very conspicuous dimensions. Having descended the stair-case with a quick step, he entered the apartment where his brother and a few friends were awaiting him. He shook hands cordially with all present; and on being asked how he had slept, answered, 'Very well,' and to the farther demand as to his state of mind, he said 'He felt happy.' One of the company having hereupon suggested that it would be as well to take something before the melancholy ceremony was gone through, he exclaimed, with some emphasis, 'Decidedly.' Breakfast was accordingly served, when he ate the whole of a French roll, a large round of toast, two sausages, and three new-laid eggs, which he washed down with two great breakfast-cups of tea. In reply to an expression of astonishment on the part of a person present, at his appetite, he declared that he never felt it heartier in his life. Having inquired the time, and ascertained that it was ten minutes to eleven, he remarked that 'It would soon be over.' His brother then inquired if he could do any thing for him; when he said he should like a glass of ale. Having drunk this, he appeared satisfied. The fatal moment now approaching, he devoted the remaining brief portion of his time to distributing among his friends those little articles which he would soon no longer want. To one he gave his cigar-case, to another his tobacco-stopper, and he charged his brother Henry with his latch-key, with instructions to deliver it, after all was over, with due solemnity, to his landlady. The clock at length struck eleven; and at the same moment he was informed that a cab was at the door. He merely said, 'I am ready,' and allowed himself to be conducted to the vehicle, into which he got with his brother—his friends following in two others. Arrived at the tragical spot, a short but anxious delay of some seconds took place; after which they were joined by the lady with her friends. Little was said on either side; but Miss Gale, with customary decorum, shed tears. Pinkney endeavoured to preserve a composure; but a slight twitching of his mouth and eyebrows proclaimed his inward agitation. The ill-starred bachelor having sub-

mitted quietly to have a large white bow pinned to his button-hole, now walked, side by side with Miss Gale, with a firm step to the altar. He surveyed the imposing preparations with calmness; and gazed, unmoved, on the clergyman, who, assisted by the clerk, was waiting behind the railings. All requisite preliminaries having now been settled, and the prescribed melancholy formalities gone through, the usual question was put, 'Wilt thou have this woman for thy wife?' To which the rash youth replied, in a distinct voice, 'I will.' He then put the fatal ring upon Miss Gale's finger; the hymeneal noose was adjusted; and the poor fellow was launched into matrimony."

*The History and Antiquities of Brentford, Ealing, and Chiswick, &c. &c.* By Thomas Faulkner. 8vo, pp. 504. Simpkin and Marshall, Nattali, Nichols, Pickering, Rodd, J. R. Smith.

A FINE old topographical veteran, at the end of forty years' labours, gives us this addition to his patient efforts upon the metropolitan county of Middlesex. These are humble contributions to literature and knowledge; but they possess remarkable elements, which can be denied to much more showy productions. Out of an epic poem, or an illustrious historical romance, we look for nothing beyond the delight which the lofty genius of the author has provided for us; but from the researches of the diligent creeping topographer are deduced proofs of ancestry, property, and other items, which are of extreme interest to individuals; whilst other apparently insulated and not very important facts serve to correct the faults of the splendid historian. A small truth is enough to destroy a magnificent hypothesis.

Mr. Faulkner has been a steadfast gleaner in the field which promises only the sort of harvest we have indicated; and left it to others to reap the grand general shearing of the crop.

This volume treats of interesting localities near London. Many of the famed have lived, died, and been buried in these suburban parts. Fashions have changed, and the rural retreat of the sumptuous has changed into the "seminary;" the tuscolum of the minister has become a market-gardener's dormitory; the noble philosophic academe has been converted into a workhouse; the lovely villa of the poet (blessed the time when poets had villas instead of lodgings!) has been beautified into a railroad-station, and never were lines and measures of his (the original) so perfect as theirs, the men of the lanterns and red-lights. But in the churchyards there is little of difference. There they lie, with their tombstones and epitaphs, and there, already, are the mounting hillocks of their less noted successors. Honest Mr. Faulkner rescues and tells us of the past. Let the present alone, and the future to speak for itself.

We cannot be expected to go through the particulars of a volume of this kind. It possesses all the qualities which (within its boundaries) claim the attention of the genealogist, antiquary, and historian. We cite a few samples of its quality.

*Brentford.*—"1682. Parish armour—a one chest of armour, parish 'shedoule,' 1682. It appears that every parish was obliged to keep a certain portion of armour, according to its size, which was exhibited once a year before the justices. In villages the armour was kept in the church, and was called the church-armour, or harness, as in the following and other entries in the churchwardens' accounts at Lambeth:—

"1568. For skouring the church-harness

and carriage, and a man to wear it before the justices, 3s. 8d.

"1688. Paid for a declaration of liberty of conscience, 1s.

"Paid for a form of prayer for the Dutch first landing, 1s.

"Paid for a thanksgiving for deliverance from popery, 1s.

"1695, Feb. 12. Alice and Elizabeth Pickering, wandering children, were whipped publicly according to law, and sent with a pass to Shrewsbury, the place where they were born.

"1699, Dec. 2. Ann Roberts, a vagrant, about 40 years of age, was whipped publicly according to law, in order to be passed from town to town till she comes to Gheton, which was the place of her last abode."

These were according to the notions and manners of our forefathers and mothers.

*Chiswick.*—"This parish is not to be found in Domesday Book, but it is mentioned in various ancient records by the name of Ceswyck, Cheswyck, and Chiswick. There is a tradition, that within the last hundred years a very considerable mart, or fair, for cheese was annually held in the field called the 'Great Downs,' nearly opposite the Duke of Devonshire's. If so, we here possess the most probable derivation of the name of the village, which in all the more ancient writings that I am acquainted with is spelt Chesewick, or Chiswick."

Whatever its name or derivation, Chiswick churchyard is the last repository of many by whom the arts and literature of England have been honoured. An afternoon there will be well spent. Among the epitaphs of higher kind is the following:

"On a tablet—

'Here lyes ye clay  
which the other day  
inclos'd Sam Seville's soul,  
but now is free and unconfin'd,  
she fled and left her clog behind  
Intomb'd within this mole  
May ye 21, 1738,  
In the 30 year of his age."

Every thing worthy of notice in the parts surveyed is minutely recorded in this useful volume.

*Memoir of George Heriot; with the History of the Hospital, &c.* By W. Steven, D.D., late Head-Master, &c. of the Heriot Foundation Schools. Pp. circ. 540. Edinb., Bell and Bradfute; London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE biography of the renowned goldsmith and banker of James VI. of Scotland and I. of England affords many curious illustrations of the manners of the times in which he lived; and embraces many orders of society, from the king and queen upon the throne, to the humblest citizen and the necessitous poor. The account of his princely endowment of the hospital and schools which bear his name in Edinburgh is also replete with interesting matter; and Dr. Steven, having been five years at the head of these institutions, has been enabled to give us a very clear and satisfactory history of their origin and progress from the earliest period to the present day. The book is therefore one which will both inform and amuse the general reader; containing, as it does, much that is national, as well as personal and anecdotal, and exhibiting the charitable feelings, as well as the peculiar customs and bias, of the times.

Two centuries and a half have elapsed since George Heriot began the world as a young and enterprising tradesman; and his success may be studied for two centuries and a half to come, as a stimulus to industry, integrity, prudence, and enterprise. He was born "in the



beginning of June 1563. The family from which he was descended, though not opulent, was very ancient, and one of acknowledged consideration in the county of Haddington. Trabroun, the patrimonial estate, was a small property, not exceeding four hundred acres, in the parish of Gladsmuir, and had been acquired by John Heriot from Archibald, Earl of Douglas. In the charter, which was confirmed by King James the First of Scotland, in the nineteenth year of his reign, the earl designates him 'squire,' and son to his confederate, James Heriot of Niddry-Marischal. Several members of the house of Trabroun were connected by marriage with the nobility and landed gentry of the country; whilst Agnes Heriot, one of the family, was honoured in being the mother of George Buchanan, the historian and poet."

He prospered in Edinburgh till James, his royal patron, ascended the English throne; and some of his dealings previous to and at that auspicious event are curious specimens of his *status* in relation to royalty and to his business with the rest of the world.

"His residence in Edinburgh was in the Fishmarket Close. His first shop, or 'buih,' was one of those small erections which, till a comparatively recent period, were attached to St. Giles's Cathedral. His shop, or 'kraam,' as it was commonly called, was at the Lady's Steps, on the north-east corner of the church. This was a central situation and a much-frequented spot. Upon the steps leading up to the krames it was customary to implement the bargains made at the neighbouring cross, by going through certain formalities, and in presenting the hire-penny. In this humble erection, and afterwards in one at the west end of the cathedral, Heriot carried on an extensive trade as a goldsmith and money-lender. He soon recommended himself to the notice of his sovereign, by whom, on the 17th July, 1597, he was declared goldsmith to Anne of Denmark, the gay consort of James VI. Ten days afterwards, Heriot's appointment was publicly proclaimed at the Cross of Edinburgh by sound of trumpet. This, it must be confessed, was a most fortunate appointment; for never, truly, did tradesman get a better customer. There is no question that Heriot was principally indebted to Anne of Denmark for the acquisition of his large fortune. Few of our sovereigns have been more addicted than was Anne to the extravagant bestowal of diamond rings and other valuable ornaments on favourites. Her rage for finery was, perhaps, carried to an unjustifiable length. The original documents preserved in the charter-room of the hospital strikingly exhibit the ruling passion of the queen in this respect, and the no less proverbial caution of her worthy goldsmith. When her majesty was desirous of procuring an advance of money, or some new trinkets, whether for personal use or for gifts, it was no unusual thing to pledge with him the most precious of her jewels. This was very soon the case, as the subjoined letter, which has never before been printed, abundantly testifies:

'Traist Cousing and Counsallour, We greit you hertlie wele. Having oftentimes befor baith be word and wrett, preissit Mr. Johnne Prestoun of Fentounbarnis to satisfie and mak pament to George Heriot younger, of that sowne expressit in our precept, of the first and reddiest of our taxatioun, seing our dearest bedfellowis the Quenis Jowallis wer ingadged for this sowne, and that it titchted Us sa neirlie in honour, yit hes he ever excusit himself with the collectioun and keeping together of that sowne destinat to the dispasche of our Am-

bassadour to France. For removing of the quhilk his farder delay and excusis, We have thought guid heirly to will and desire you, That ye fail not to caus the said George be anserit of that sowne debtfull to him, and contenit in his precept off the first end of that sowne reservit to the dispasche of our said Ambassadour, or any uther part of our taxatioun, being presentlie or that salhappin to cum first in your or your substitutis handis, and that ye prefer his pament to all utheris for the relieff of our said dearest bedfellowis Jowellis ingadged, and our honour and promeis caus; quherunto we dout not bot ye will have a speciall regaird as ye will mereit Our thankis and do Us acceptable plesure and service. Sua we commit you to God. From Falkland, this xiiij of Junij 1599.

JAMES R.  
'To our traist Cousing and Counsallour  
The Lord of Newbottle.'

"His majesty, on the 4th April, 1601, was pleased to appoint George Heriot as his own jeweller. This was another important step gained. The fees attached to the two offices which he now held were very considerable. So entirely, indeed, did the royal household seem to require Heriot in his double capacity of goldsmith and cashier, that an apartment in the palace of Holyrood was actually prepared in which he might regularly transact business. It has been computed that, during the ten years which immediately preceded the accession of King James to the throne of Great Britain, Heriot's bills for the queen's jewels alone could not amount to less than 50,000*l.* sterling. Imitating the extravagance of the court, the principal nobility and gentry of Scotland also vied with one another in the frequency and costliness of their purchases. Like royalty, too, they were often glad to avail themselves, in times of emergency, of pecuniary accommodation from Heriot. Subjoined is the copy of an acknowledgment which Heriot received from her majesty on the restitution of a richly set emerald which she had 'engaged':

'We Anna, be the grace of God, Quene of Scottis, grantis us presentlie to haif ressavd agane of the hands of our servitour George Heriot younger, our goldsmith, Ane Imarod set about with dymontis and rubies in forme of ane fedder, quhilk was in yaget be us and delyverit to the said George be Alexander, lord of Fyvie of befor. Be thir presentis, subscrivrit with our hand at Dalkeith, the twenty nynt day of July 1601.

ANNA R.  
"In the lord high treasurer's accounts, the following sums appear to have been paid to George Heriot by or der of the king:—'1601 Jan. Item, for ane Jow ell quhair with his Hienes propynit [presented to] his darrest bedfallow in ane new yair gift, j<sup>m</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> xxxij <sup>li</sup>. vj s.—1601 Dec. Item, for ane greit cheinzie of gold with his Hienes portra it hingand thairat quhilk wes gevin to ane genti lman that come fra the Duik of Magilburgh (Mecklenburg), vj<sup>c</sup> xij <sup>li</sup>. xvij s. iij d.'

"Evidence still exists that Heriot had frequently in his possession most valuable articles pertaining to the king and queen. How he should have become, as he actually did, the temporary conservator of certain title-deeds belonging to the Chapel Royal at Stirling, is not very apparent. From what is known, however, of King James's peculiarities in money-matters, it seems not unlikely that Heriot held this rather unusual pledge in consequence of some pecuniary advances. The royal precept is as follows:—

'Rex.—George Heriot younger, It is Our will, and We command you, that upoun the

sicht heirof, ye delyver to our servitour Johnne Gib, the wryttis concerning our chappell royall within our castell of Sterling, quhilkis ye have in your handis, according to the particular note to be gevin to you be our said servitour Quhairanent thir presentis salbe your warrand. Subscrivrit with Our hand At Halyrudhouse, the — day of Januar 1603.

JAMES R.  
"On the original document, Gib the king's 'servitour' acknowledges the receipt of several legal instruments or papal bulls, which he particularly enumerates. Another communication of the queen, which we shall give, is an extremely brief note. It is holograph, and is one of many of the original papers preserved in the hospital."

It runs thus in her own spelling:—

"'Gordg Heriatt, I earnestlie dissyr youe present to send me tua hundrethe pundes vithe all expidition becaus I man hest me away presentlie.

ANNA R.  
"On the death of Queen Elizabeth, the British islands were united under one sovereignty, in consequence of the Scottish monarch having been called, by hereditary right, to fill the vacant throne. King James, with no little pageantry, commenced his journey to England, April 5th, 1603. Immediately before the cavalcade started, his majesty took leave in his own peculiar way. 'He bade farewell to his queen in the High Street of Edinburgh. They both were dissolved in tears. The whole population of the metropolis of Scotland witnessed this conjugal parting; and loudly mourned the departure of their sovereign, and joined their tears to those of his anxious consort.' Heriot contributed essentially to the decoration of his royal master's person on this memorable occasion, and furnished him with an abundant supply of valuable rings. The Scottish nobles, who were in attendance upon his majesty in his progress southward, were equally indebted to the court-jeweller. Queen Anne appears to have lost no time, after her consort's departure, in summoning Heriot into her presence, and in giving him extensive orders. The two months which intervened before she proceeded to London were spent in making the requisite arrangements, in accomplishing which Heriot's services were frequently required. Her orders were of a miscellaneous description. As a specimen, we give a few particulars from an original account for jewels and other articles furnished to the queen from the 28th January, 1603, to 10th August, 1604:—'Imprimis, Ane pendant, all sett with diamonds, price thereof (in sterling money) xlviii <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for making of a tablet for a portrait, sett with diamonds and rubies, xvi <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for a silver chafing-dish, waying 47 ounces, xvi <sup>li</sup>. xiii s. vid.' In the same bill the following articles are enumerated:—'Item, your Majestie oweth to me of the workmanship, and the gold furnisht to your Majestie's work, made at your entrie in the cite of London, ii<sup>c</sup> xviii <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for making of her Majestie's picture in gold, vi <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for making of the Prince's picture in gold, vi <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for setting the two pictures in a jewell set with diamonds, viii <sup>li</sup>.; Item, for 2 dosen of lambeskins to keep your Majestie's jewels, at 8s. the dos., xvii s.' As might be supposed, the removal of the court from Edinburgh seriously affected the interests of many individuals. Those who, like Heriot, mainly depended upon royalty and its usual retinue, forthwith repaired to the capital. The subject of this memoir was now too important a person, and in various respects too closely connected with his sovereign's arrangements, to be allowed a long absence from his wonted

post. Accordingly we soon find our goldsmith in London, 'dwelland foreanent the New Exchange.'

About this time he married Christian Marjoribanks; and "Sir Robert Sibbald, in an unpublished work, records the distressing event that two sons by that marriage perished at sea while on their passage from Scotland to London. It is remarkable that no other writer has even alluded to this mournful visitation; but there is no reason to call in question the accuracy of Sibbald's statement regarding this domestic calamity. After the lapse of five years, Heriot, abounding in wealth and high in reputation, returned to Scotland, for the purpose of forming a matrimonial alliance with Alison Primrose, eldest daughter of James Primrose, the grandfather of the first Earl of Rosebery. This marriage, advantageous to both parties, took place at Edinburgh in the autumn of 1608. The bride was sixteen, and the bridegroom forty-five. James Primrose, the father of nineteen children, was a lawyer by profession; and being a man of no small industry and sagacity, had recommended himself to King James, by whom he was appointed, in 1602, clerk to the privy-council—an office which he honourably enjoyed for nearly forty years. With his second wife Heriot received five thousand merks Scots as her portion; and, as appears from the marriage-contract, he engaged to 'joyne and eik thairto' twenty thousand merks, with the view of purchasing land or annual rents for their mutual advantage. On returning home, Heriot found that his business was daily increasing; and, in the course of a very few months, he was actually unable to procure in London the necessary number of workmen to execute his orders. In these circumstances, a singular method—in all probability the suggestion of the queen—was forthwith adopted. A government-proclamation was issued, calling upon all magistrates throughout the kingdom to aid the court-jeweller in getting the tradesmen he required. This curious document was as follows:

'Whereas this gentleman, George Herriott, hir Majesties Jeweller, is commanded to make with speed some worke for hir Majesties use and service, and for the better expediting of the service, is to use the helpe of other workmen of his Trade, besides thoes that are his servants, This are therefore to praye, and require you, and every of you, to bee ayding and assisting unto him, in the taking upp of such workmen as he shall necessarily use for the furthering of the service; Provided alwaies, that the said George Herriott do yeld them such wages for their worke as in these cases are usually accustomed: wherof I pray you fayle not. From Whitehall, this 15. of March 1609.

SUFFOLKE.

'To all Maiors, Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Bayliffs, Constables, Healdboroughes, and all other his Majesty's Officers to whome it may appertaine.'

"In the month of May of the same year, Heriot received a communication from her majesty, intimating, that having recently got from him to the value of a thousand guineas, she thought it proper, seeing she did not at that moment possess an overabundance of the current coin of the realm, to place in his hands some substantial articles as security. It is certainly somewhat out of character to find the first queen of Great Britain resorting to such a humiliating practice. In consideration of having received some rich pendant diamonds, and a large supply of amber-grease, civet, and musk, to the value just stated, her majesty authorises Heriot to pawn certain jewels enume-

rated in her precept, and of which she had lost conceit. Economy, it has been well observed, could never be reckoned among the virtues of Anne of Denmark. In consequence of her indiscretion, she shortly discovered that her exalted station did not save her from the anxiety which embarrassment brings in its train. We are told that she became melancholy and dispirited in the winter of 1609; and, on inquiry, it was ascertained that her jointure was insufficient to meet the demands of her creditors, of whom Heriot was the principal. The sum of 20,000*l.* sterling was immediately drawn from the public chest for the payment of the queen's debt, and the royal jointure was increased 3000*l.* a year.—Heriot met with a severe domestic bereavement in 1612. For a second time he had the misfortune to find himself a widower. Alison Primrose, his beloved wife, was cut off in the flower of her days, on the 16th April of that year, at the youthful age of twenty. She appears to have been remarkable not less for her piety, amiableness of disposition, and superior mental endowments, than for great personal beauty. The stroke to Heriot and the family-connexions was the more severe, as they were actually rejoicing in the prospect that she was on the eve of becoming a mother." Her death "proved a most disastrous event to George Heriot. Two months after her decease, we find him tracing on a slip of paper this short but significant sentence: 'She cannot be too much lamented, who could not be too much loved'; a declaration the sincerity of which we cannot doubt, as it does not appear to have been intended for the public eye. He had no surviving children by marriage; and he continued a widower during the remaining eleven years of his life. Up to his last wife's demise, his character as a man and a Christian was irreproachable. There is a fact, however, connected with his history shortly after this period, which we have no wish to conceal, though we regret being called upon even to advert to a matter which unquestionably leaves so deep a stain on his otherwise fair name. The circumstance to which we refer is, that George Heriot had two illegitimate daughters. It certainly cannot be insinuated that he left them to pine away in indigence and disgrace. He at once acknowledged them; and in this the characteristic qualities of his mind and heart shone forth. With that high sense of honour and justice by which he was eminently distinguished, he exercised towards them the part of an indulgent and a considerate parent; and, as will afterwards appear, made ample testamentary provision for both."

These are the leading incidents of his life; and we will not enter into its after-details, nor into the measures he adopted to found and endow the hospital by which his name as a benefactor of his kind will go down with honour to the latest posterity. We have only to repeat, that the volume is throughout one of very gratifying character and entertaining description. We notice some inaccuracies or misprints in figures; but as they must strike every one, we need not particularise them.

*Minstrel Love; a Romance.* From the German of Fouqué. Pp. 533. James Burns.

A NEW translation of this popular romance, and illustrated in the publisher's striking and handsome Germanic style, with nine original designs. It is here that embellishments of the kind are in their proper place, and we can admire horses in attitudes such as only German art, or its imitations, delight in, and costumes of every age and country combined, at any rate,

so as to contribute to the picturesque. Indeed, antiquarian correctness would spoil and not decorate romance; and therefore we can fairly recommend *Minstrel Love* as a very pretty and interesting publication.

*New System of Architecture, founded on the Forms of Nature, &c.* By William Vose Pickett. Pp. 144. Longmans.

MR. PICKETT is not the first person who has thought of new systems of architecture, but we believe he is the first who has obtained a patent for a new system, in which he says the purpose is defined to be, 1st, "The attainment of a description of beauty or effect integrally dissimilar from and if possible of a higher order than that exhibited in the pre-existent architectures;" and in the second place, as to the utilities, "in a comfortable modification of temperature, or the counteraction as far as possible of the effects of heat in summer and cold in winter—durability, dryness, cleanliness, free admission of light, general convenience and economy of space, security against fire, &c.—and facility in erection, and for the removal of structures, without the injury or destruction of their respective parts." The object of the inventor, if the system be an invention, is the use of metals instead of stones and bricks; but in what manner and form the metallurgic system is to be developed, Mr. P. keeps us profoundly ignorant in his book; licenses, however, for the practical operations of this architecture, as required by law, may it appears be obtained; and we presume that lessons in it will be given to architects of "established reputation."

We can hardly think the author serious in this work, or that he has the remotest notion that his hints will be used. We are far from saying that, as respects utility, the use of cast-iron and the metals in building have reached the extent to which they may be carried, but the assumption of Mr. Pickett, "that all and each of the pre-existent styles or systems of architecture are founded on and have especial reference to the properties and capabilities of the same material, viz. stone," is not founded on fact. Had it, however, been so, it is no little compliment to Masonic architecture, as the author calls it, to say that it has produced many styles altogether dissimilar.

*Githa of the Forest.* By the Author of "Lord Dacre of Gilsland." 3 vols. Churton.

IT is almost a hopeless task to invest a tale of Danish invasion and barbarity, and of Saxon bravery and suffering, before the period of Alfred, with sufficient interest to sustain three volumes of mingled historical tradition and romantic fiction. Our author, however, has taken great pains with his descriptions of the country, with his costumes, and with the forms of battles, rites, ceremonies, religious observances, and other public occasions, as far as accounts of them have been handed down, and can be gathered from elder writers. The story relates to the destruction of Croyland, which is assigned to the reign of Ethelwolf; and what with conflicts, conflagrations, treacheries, murders, tyranny, rapine, love, &c. &c. &c., between camp and cloister, there is a constant bustle of adventure, and as good a picture of these rude and bloody times as the most exigent reader could require. The illustration of Anglo-Saxon subjects is the result of research.

*The Life and Services of General Lord Harris, &c.* By the Right Hon. S. R. Lushington. Pp. 387. London, J. W. Parker.

THIS is a second edition of an interesting biography, but chiefly to be noticed as again vindicating Lord Harris, the Marquis of Welles-



ley, and the Duke of Wellington, from imputations thrown upon them, and the British army in India, by Mr. Alison in his History, of which a new edition has appeared since Mr. Lushington had corrected the misrepresentations, and yet without having induced Mr. A. to retract them. They are now completely set at rest on many points as adduced in the preface to this volume; and he will be a bold man who can hereafter revive such statements as ought resembling truth. If not for the credit of his country, and the honour of its noblest characters, Mr. Alison, for his own sake, ought to have carefully revised these aspersions, and annulled all that were contradicted upon the most unquestionable authorities—such as are here brought forward and placed in juxtaposition with the fictions and exaggerations of a fine garnished style of historical composition.

*The Travels and Adventures of Thomas Trotter* (Darton's Juvenile Library). Pp. 207. Darton and Clark.

PETER PARLEY is herein stated to be in reality Mr. S. G. Goodrich of Boston, America; and this is the first of a series promised by him as "expressly adapted for English readers." We see no reason why it should not be equally applicable to American and all other readers, for it is a very nice account of Mr. Trotter's voyage from Boston, *via* Malta and Gibraltar, to Sicily, and his subsequent sojourn in that island and Italy. For young people, nothing of the sort could be better devised, or more suitably written as to manner, style, and intelligence.

*The Life of Mozart, including his Correspondence.* By Edward Holmes, Author of "A Ramble among the Musicians of Germany." Pp. 364. Chapman and Hall.

To the musical world, this volume will be very acceptable. Of Mozart heretofore they have had nothing but loose and desultory notices; and if music be the fine art (the food of love) to touch and move all the chords of the human heart, assuredly among its votaries there are but few who have played on that wonderful instrument with so masterly a hand as Mozart. In all works of this class there are two lines to be pursued—the very scientific and learned, or the very popular and meaningless. To steer between these Scylla and Charybdis is not an easy task; but as we are aboard, and not on the shore for a fatal purpose, we think we can truly say that the author, without being deep or trivial, has produced a very readable and interesting biography of a justly renowned musical composer.

*Life of Lorenzo de' Medici, called the Magnificent.* By William Roscoe. Pp. 504. D. Bogue. This is the first volume of (we presume) a series the entitled "The European Library," and is judiciously re-formed edition of the late Mr. Roscoe's work, on which his fame as an English classic rests. The life of his father by Henry Roscoe has also been modified by the editor Mr. Hazlitt, and prefixed to the work.

#### ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

London, 25th Oct.

SIR,—I am a bit of an antiquary, and am acquainted with very many amateurs, who, like myself, are contented with trying to initiate ourselves in the mysteries of archæological lore, without presuming to compete in public with the respectable names engaged in furthering the objects of the two large associations. I was on a visit few days ago to a gentleman who confessedly knows a good deal about horses

and dogs, but who is, alas, deaf to the calls of Gothic architecture and barrow-opening. Imagine my surprise, when he placed in my hands a book of travels published by the Chetham Society, with the remark, "A pretty set of people you antiquaries are, to publish a book in Lancashire, and not know the meaning of *stoop*!" I confess I was staggered. The writer mentions *stoops* placed on the bank of a river. Not only is the word well known to every North-countryman, but is in most of the glossaries, in Brockett, in Jamieson's most excellent Dictionary, &c. It is usually explained, "posts fastened in the earth." The editor conjectures it to mean *barrels*! A Mr. Edward Hawkins is the ingenious annotator.

I am, &c. A LANCASHIRE BOY.

[We insert this note, as all errors of the kind are better pointed out; but it is unnecessary to observe, that philology is, perhaps, of all sciences, the most liable to casual mistakes. At the same time, we are somewhat surprised to find that a provincial society, especially one in the North of England, should not select for their editors men who are well acquainted with the dialects of the county whose history they profess to illustrate.—Ed. L. G.]

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

Oct. 15th.—Mr. J. S. Bowerbank in the chair. A paper by Mr. H. Deane—being a continuation of a former communication, read at the last meeting of the society, "On fossil *Xanthidia* found in chalk?"—was read. After a brief summary of the former paper, in which he stated that various species of the genus *Xanthidium* had been found by him in the Folkestone chalk, Mr. Deane went on to state, that this discovery, by affording the means of isolating and mounting these bodies in various ways for examination, suggested to him the possibility of ascertaining their true nature. Their minuteness, and other obvious circumstances, prevented their chemical examination, and consequently they could only be operated upon mechanically. Their shape is that of a flattened sphere, the major part of them closely resembling some of the gemmules of sponges, most of them having a circular opening. The arms of all appear to be closed at the ends, and not tubular, as has been supposed from the examination of some of the flint specimens under pressure in water between two pieces of glass. They were torn asunder in the same manner as a horny or cartilaginous substance would be; and the arms in contact with the glass were bent. Some, after maceration in water for several weeks, became quite flaccid, thus entirely disproving their silicious nature; on the contrary, there is every reason to suppose them to have been of a horny or cartilaginous nature. Some other bodies, resembling the husks of peas, were also observed, which appear to be identical with the pisidiculus in flints; but these, although agreeing in colour, he does not consider to have any relation to the *Xanthidia*; but, from their close resemblance to sponge-gemmules, to be some animal or animals in a progressive state of development.

Another paper by the same gentleman, "On a mode of isolating the silicious shells of infusorial animals found in the Ichaboe guano," was also read. After premising that the guano from Ichaboe was soon found to contain silicious shells of microscopic animals allied to those brought from Richmond in Virginia, and from Bermuda, he stated, that the extreme difficulty of finding them in the ordinary mode induced

him to try whether, by decomposing the guano by means of nitric acid, more satisfactory results might not be obtained. The experiment was successful, and the following is the method he employed:—Take any quantity of pure Ichaboe guano, and wash it by repeated ablutions of distilled water, until the water is no longer coloured; observing, after each addition of water, that it must be well stirred two or three times, and allowed to settle for some hours. When sufficiently washed, a small quantity of hydrochloric acid is to be added to the water last used: this dissolves some portion of the guano with effervescence, and causes a more perfect subsidence of that portion which it does not act upon. After this, allow sufficient time for the deposit to become well settled down; then the clear liquor being poured off as closely as possible, without loss of the sediment, a quantity of strong nitric acid, in the proportion of two fluid ounces to every ounce by weight of the guano employed, is to be added: a strong effervescence takes place, which should be assisted by its being placed in a warm place, at a temperature of about 200°, for six hours, during which time the greater part of the guano will be dissolved. After allowing it to stand in a cool place for twenty-four hours, pour off the acid liquor, and wash the sediment with plenty of distilled water. The fine portion of this sediment will contain all the silicious shells of the guano, perfectly freed from extraneous matter.

#### Extraordinary Appearance of the Planet Mars.

—We have lately had our attention invited to the singular appearance now worn by the planet Mars. Hitherto this planet has been distinguished by a fiery redness of colour, which, to use the language of Sir John Herschel, "indicates, no doubt, an ochrey tinge in the general soil, like what the red-sandstone districts of the earth may possibly offer to the inhabitants of Mars." Such is, however, no longer the case, that planet having lost all appearance of redness, and put on a brilliant white aspect, vying in apparent magnitude and brightness with the planet Jupiter itself. The only changes which have heretofore been noticed in Mars are those our knowledge of which was derived from observation with the large reflecting telescopes of Herschel. These telescopes exhibit the appearance of brilliant white spots at the poles, which spots, from the circumstance of their always becoming visible in winter and disappearing as the poles advanced toward their summer position, have reasonably enough been attributed to the presence of snow. The novel appearance now described to us, however, by the Honourable Company's astronomer, Mr. Taylor, is such as that the whole of the planet, with the exception of a moderately broad equatorial belt, assumes a decidedly white aspect, strongly contrasting with what he has ever before noticed. We look forward with great anxiety and interest to those observations on the above planet which may be expected to have been made through the medium of the numerous and powerful telescopes now at work in Europe.—*Madras Spectator*, Aug. 26.

*East-Indian Meteorology.*—The last bimensal arrivals continue to give us accounts of remarkable meteorological phenomena in Hindostan. "16th Aug.—A correspondent states, that in the neighbourhood of Cherra Poonjee, on the 6th instant, the earthquake was alarmingly violent. It took place about twenty minutes past 11 p.m.; and he adds, that he could hardly stand on his feet, and expected every moment the house would fall in." *Englishman*.—The

Madras papers give an account of a most magnificent meteor. Its appearance was that of a ball of fire, which, falling in a south-westerly direction, in its descent emitted three distinct flashes of light; the first of which was so dazzlingly bright as to startle those who beheld the phenomenon, and for a moment completely to light up the heavens in the direction of its fall. —Letters from Sylhet, an up-country station, mention a shock of an earthquake which injured several houses and the portico of the church. —There have been extraordinary high tides some days past, and the bore upon the Hooghly stronger than has been known for some time. It burst open one of the docks, and covered almost all the low country; and many serious accidents occurred on the river, as well to ships as to smaller and native crafts. The rise of the Ganges has also inundated the country and destroyed crops, and been more rapid than ever remembered by the oldest natives.

**English Manufacture of Iron.**—One of the most promising projected railroads of the day is called the Shropshire Mineral, and destined, among other traffic, for the transport of iron from the mines of Salop direct to Birmingham, Sheffield, &c., for manufacture. But we mention the circumstance only to introduce some curious statistical matter which this plan has elicited, and with which (when mentioned to us) we were much struck. The value of iron for manufacturing purposes is, it seems, considerably deteriorated by frequent change in the mode of transport and exposure to the atmosphere: a proportionate oxidation ensues; and when it reaches its destination, it is so much per cent less valuable than if conveyed at once, and almost uncooled, from the furnace to the workshop or factory. What can be done with it in this condition is illustrated by the following remarkable fact:—*Thirty-one pounds of Shropshire iron has been made (by a Mr. Sims, we think) into wire upwards of one hundred and eleven miles in length; and so fine was the fabric, that a part of it was humorously converted, in lieu of the usual horse-hair, into a barrister's wig!* In order to effect this extraordinary tenacity, the process consists of heating the iron and passing it through rollers of 8 inches diameter, going at the rate of 400 revolutions per minute, down to No. 4 on the wire-gauge. It is afterwards drawn cold at Birmingham, or elsewhere, down to the extent of 38 on the same gauge, and so completed to the surprising length of 111 miles.

#### LITERARY AND LEARNED.

##### UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE, Oct. 22. — The following degrees were conferred:—

*Masters of Arts.*—W. L. Pownall, St. John's College; M. A. Smelt, Caius College; G. Phillips, Queen's College; H. Jones, Z. Nash, Catherine Hall.  
*Bachelors in Physic.*—E. L. Ormerod, Caius College.  
*Bachelors of Arts.*—W. Johnson, King's College; J. G. Child, Magdalene College.  
*Ad eundem.*—Rev. T. H. Kingdon, B.D., Exeter College, Oxford.

##### INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

*A Daughter of William the Conqueror and her Husband disinterred by a Railway!*

MR. M. A. LOWER, one of the most efficient members of the British Archeological Association, and well known within its circle by his contributions, as well as to the antiquarian world at large by his popular publications on *Heraldry and the Origin of Surnames*,\* has

communicated to the central committee a very interesting discovery made on Tuesday last, the 28th ult., and of which we have been favoured with an account for early insertion.

In the course of the railway excavations through the site of the priory of St. Pancras, at Lewes, "the bones of Gundred, fifth daughter of William the Conqueror, and those of her husband, the first Earl of Warenne, the founders of this renowned monastery, have been brought to light! Two leaden chests, of which the dimensions are subjoined, have been exhumed, and are in the custody of the rector of Southover. At the upper end of the lid of one of them is the word,

GUNDRADA

incised in the lead; and on the corresponding part of the other is this:

WILLELM.

"The first chest is 2 ft. 9 in. long; 12½ in. broad; 9 in. deep. The second is 2 ft. 11 in. long; 12½ in. broad; 8 in. deep.

"The first contains the bones of a female, and the second those of a male of apparently rather large proportions. The chests have been much bruised by the weight of the superincumbent earth, the lead being of no great substance. The plates of lead are evidently cast, and the ornamentation is singular, though simple. A cord of loose texture seems to have been impressed in the sand at regular intervals, and then crossed in the opposite direction, so as to produce in the cast a kind of lozenge or net-work pattern, standing in relief, with interstices, measuring 5 in. by 3 in. This is the only ornament attempted, and there are no handles. The letters correspond exactly with those on Gundred's tomb, near which (says Mr. Lower) I have just had the pleasure of seeing the venerable relics deposited."

Mr. Lower adds, that other discoveries are going on; and that, on the same afternoon, a prior had been found buried in the sable garb of his order.

Since preparing the foregoing for the press, we see an account in the newspapers to the following effect:

"On Tuesday the excavators discovered the ancient chapter-house; and on raising a marble slab two cists were discovered, inscribed with the names 'Guillelme' and 'Gundreda,' in antique characters. The contents were a male and female skeleton; and it is remarkable, that the skull and teeth of William de Warenne are sound, the latter as perfect as in the living subject. Near the spot were discovered the remains of an ecclesiastic, probably one of the priors, with a cowl on the skull. He appeared to have been interred in a vault without any coffin."

##### THE MANCHESTER ATHENÆUM.

THE third annual Athenæum *soirée*, at Manchester, on the 23d ult., went off bravely in the Free-Trade Hall, though neither M. Sue, who was indisposed, Mr. Dickens, whose lady was in (not exactly) the same condition (as we see by the papers she had a little boy on the 28th ult.), nor M. Thiers, who was compelled to depart from England before the appointed day, could attend. Mr. Sergeant Talfourd presided; and was supported, as the saying is, by the Mayor, Messrs. Cobden, Gibson, M. Phillips, Brotherton, and Bright, M.P.'s, Mr. Heywood, and Messrs. Lover, Douglas Jerrold, F. Stone, and other gentlemen belonging to London circles of literature and the fine arts. The chairman delivered a lengthened and eloquent

address on the occasion, and was followed by Mr. M. Phillips with more practical matter. Mr. Frank Stone, whose childhood belonged to Manchester, which he left in early youth to pursue the profession he now adorns, spoke next; and Mr. Bright enforced the strong claims of education, according to the views of the political party to which he adheres. Mr. Douglas Jerrold was then presented to the audience, with high compliments from Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, and delivered what has been denominated "the speech of the evening." It hailed the freedom and progress of the Lady Knowledge from the giants and dwarfs who had so long enchained her; rejoiced in the growth of Truth from its acorn to its lofty-oak estate (under whose branches they were assembled); and humorously compared the dissipation of error to the story of an arctic bear, whose iceberg dissolved as it drifted towards the light and warmth of the sun. Mr. M. Gibson next addressed the meeting; and was succeeded by Mr. Lover, who made his exit with a smart joke on the cause of Mr. Dickens's absence, as being almost like his own predicament, viz. an engagement to Biddy-come (Biddicomb). Mr. Cobden (seconded by Mr. Heywood) moved a vote of thanks to the directors, and offered some astute remarks on the position of literary men in England. As this gentleman's observations are almost marked by superior intelligence, we make no excuse for copying a portion of them, as reported in the *Times* (which, by-the-by, could not resist a fling at Sergeant Talfourd, who has incurred its displeasure, and cannot hope for forgiveness): "Literary men," said Mr. Cobden, "had not held their true position in this country. While in France the leading men, the natural leaders of the country, were those renowned for their genius and intellect, in England they held no social position, but were like hermits living in their cells. The reason, he believed, was, they did not know the literary men of their country. They were indebted to their committee for making them better acquainted with their literary men; and he had little doubt, that among other contributions to public usefulness that institution had made, it would be recorded that it had been instrumental in producing a new estimate of literary men, which would not stop in their appreciation of them as the leaders and champions of a large section of the most intelligent portion of the middle classes. But they would, ere long, see the men of science and literature holding that rank which they did in France; and proud indeed would they have reason to be, when they thought that the course of the Manchester Athenæum had contributed to so desirable a result." He concluded with a playful allusion to Mrs. Caudle, as the hour was getting late, and they had "other amusements" in store for some of them; and the vote was passed by acclamation. Mr. E. Watkins acknowledged it. Thanks were voted to the chairman, with three cheers for his lady: the forms were dispensed with, the hall cleared, and the Manchester Polka reigned supreme, after all the intellectual display of the *soirée*.

The flourishing condition of the institution is most honourable to "the Cotton Capital," and must produce excellent and important results. Indeed, there is a very auspicious thirst for the cultivation of literature and knowledge prevalent in Manchester; and well directed, and supplied from wholesome fountains, it cannot but lead to a wide diffusion of mental improvement and social happiness.\* May it

\* Among other signs, we may notice a very able essay on the Institutions of Popular Education, by

\* See *Lit. Gaz.*, Nos. 1339, 1340, and 1465.

flourish! and we have only to add, that some evidence of its present advance, from native sources, would have been an agreeable addition to the evening.

*The British Archaeological Association.*—We are glad to state that arrangements have been made for holding public meetings of the Association, twice a month throughout the year, in London. A convenient place of meeting for the first year has been secured of the Western Literary Institution in Leicester Square; and each associate will have the right of attending and introducing a friend. The opening meeting is, we understand, appointed for Tuesday evening, the 19th, on which occasion the president, Lord Albion Conyngham, will take the chair. Of course, objects of antiquity, tapestries, British, Roman, and Saxon remains, &c., will be exhibited; and the remarks or discussions on these will elicit much information of a character which must be very interesting to the public, and serve to advance the knowledge of national archaeology.

*The Syro-Egyptian Society* is, we observe, to hold its first meeting this session on Tuesday next, when a paper is to be read by Professor Fresnel, of Jidda, on the unicorn of Ethiopia, and a communication by the Rev. Albert Badger on the same subject.

*The Asiatic Society* commences its season meetings this day at the usual hour.

#### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

*Monday.*—Entomological, 8 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.  
*Tuesday.*—Linnean, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 2 P.M.; Zoological, 8½ P.M.  
*Wednesday.*—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Geological, 8½ P.M.  
*Thursday.*—Zoological, 3 P.M.  
*Friday.*—Astronomical, 8 P.M.; Botanical, 8 P.M.  
*Saturday.*—Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Royal Botanical, 4 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

#### FINE ARTS.

*The Principles and Practices of Art.* By J. D. Harding. With Illustrations drawn and engraved by the Author. Folio, pp. 156. London, Chapman and Hall.

THIS admirable work has lain too long before us unnoticed. That is to say, unnoticed in the way of offering our opinions of it to the public; but not unnoticed as a source of very frequent examination, and with every new examination, increasing pleasure. We will say, in one word, it is an Honour to the British School of Art.

In Mr. Harding's former Treatise on elementary Art, employing the lead-pencil and chalk, he pointed the way to the great laws of nature, so far above the mechanical manipulation in all that pertains to artistical sentiment and elevation. He now enlarges upon this only true and great principle, and takes us on from the elementary to the higher knowledge of painting, and its imitative powers of every description. Throughout, he displays the mind of a man who thinks and judges for himself, who is independent of oracular conventionalisms, and who is not misled by names and traditions to hail productions as *chef d'œuvres*, which are commonplace and faulty. He can see what is really excellent in old masters, for he has long experience and practical intelligence to guide him; but this does not blind him to their imperfections, nor to the degree

of beauty attained by modern and living artists. In short, he can develop immutable truth and correct criticism, as Hamlet to his mother, "Look on this picture, and on this!"

Nature is before the oldest of old masters; and if modern artists will look at her only through their spectacles, they may depend upon it they will never be old masters themselves. Let them consult the rich inheritance left them by their immortal predecessors; but it must be as examples and guides, and not as sole elements, objects, and principals. And all this, and much more, is fully explained and taught in Mr. Harding's volume; and better still, the text is illustrated and the positions proved by a number of charming engravings in every species of composition,—portrait, landscape, history, classic forms, colour, perspective, atmosphere, &c. &c.; and, to the student, the clearest instruction is given for the mechanical application of all that is laid down.

Of such a publication we can afford nothing more than a vague idea; but a brief sentence may pretty nearly describe what it is. It is a manual of the utmost value to artists and amateurs; and it is, besides, a performance so delightful in its engravings, that a portfolio more eligible for the drawing-room or library cannot be imagined.

*A Treatise on Painted Glass, showing its applicability to every Style of Architecture.* By James Ballantine, Edinburgh. 8vo, pp. 51. London, Chapman and Hall; Edin., J. Menzies. THE author, bearing a name honourably connected with Scottish social life and literature, and himself distinguished in the northern school of fine arts, has, in this concise but original-minded and able work, approved himself worthy alike of his artistic eminence and of his near relationship to the most intimate of the friends of Walter Scott.\* Mr. Hay's example (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1483) may have proximately instigated him to take up the much neglected subject of glass-painting; and at any rate he has, with reference to that art, followed in the footsteps of his skilful contemporary. He has done with and applied to glass what Mr. Hay has done with and applied to general decoration. He has laid down unalterable principles. He has deduced from them certain geometrical forms; and he has illustrated these forms by the application of colours on equally fixed and incontrovertible principles. The common sense is struck by his reasoning, and the eye is convinced by his examples. We at once acknowledge the truth; and wonder how we could have been so much diverted from the right path, and have gone so long blundering in error, and misunderstanding and mangling so brilliant a species of ecclesiastical effect and palatial and domestic splendour. We see what is so beautiful, and we reproach ourselves that it has continued to be so poorly weak and so perversely stupid. Let us hope that Mr. Ballantine's volume will open the way to better things! And believing it likely to accomplish this desirable end, we the more regret that we have not the means to do justice to its merits. But the delightfully coloured illuminations are not transferable to our columns; and the text cannot half explain the views and opinions of the writer. In short, we can only glance at them. Here is a fair specimen of the treatise:

\* He is the nephew of James Ballantine, the adviser and the reviser of Scott's manuscripts, as well as the printer of his works; and of course the cousin of his son, John Ballantine, who, so creditably to Scotch typography, continues the business established in so improved and excellent a manner by his father. —*Ed. L. G.*

"If the greatest triumphs of art be felicitous imitations of nature, and if it be its chief aim to achieve such imitations—as who can doubt it is?—why should we not have the walls and windows of our apartments decorated with these the most interesting of all the productions of genius? Why should we be deprived of the pleasure of contemplating the representation of objects endeared to us by the most delightful associations? Why believe ourselves capable of producing or conceiving more beautiful forms than those of Nature—more harmonious arrangements of colour than we find in earth and sky? Let it be remembered, that æsthetic proportion is the mere alphabet of colour, the mere anatomy of form, and that genius alone can arrange the former into eloquent sentences, or invest the latter with animation. Geometric combinations and proportions merely mark the limits within which genius ought to confine its aspirations, while, to the mediocre student, they are grammatical rules, the study of which will enable him to write correctly. Seeing, then, that proportionate combinations of colour and form hold this relative position, on what ground can it be contended that the variety of figures and hues arising from such combinations should be used in decorations, in preference to successful imitations of nature? If the human form was distorted or shapeless, or the colour of a rose offensive to the eye, then, indeed, might the imitation of such objects be objectionable, and geometric proportion be considered the beginning, middle, and end of all beauty and perfection. But, as the most beautiful combinations of form and colour are to be found in nature, so will decorative art, under the guidance and control of first principles, become more and more perfect the more closely she studies the beauties and follows the designs of the divine original. The establishment of this important proposition is one of the main purposes of the present treatise; and the following remarks, founded on a careful analysis of the characteristic features of the ornamental glass of the middle ages, are accordingly submitted, as illustrative of the advancement of art in connexion with the imitation of nature, and as tending still farther to elucidate the principle for which we have been contending."

All this is sound and just; and the author proceeds to describe and exhibit patterns of ornamental glass-painting in connexion with pointed architecture,\* from which he concludes:

"1. That while decorative art must be guided in her leading features by geometric proportion, she must also imitate in her details the productions of nature. 2. That nature and art must go hand in hand in every artistic effort, otherwise failure is certain. 3. That Grecian foliage was used in the decorations of the windows of pointed structures, and, of course, is much more appropriate for modern edifices of Doric, Ionic, or Corinthian architecture. 4. That during the period when pointed architecture had attained its greatest excellence, the most original and symmetrical decorations were produced; and that hence, when the principles of proportion and adaptation become thoroughly understood and are applied to the arts, we shall have new and graceful styles of architecture, together with novel and beautiful modes of decoration."

Some clever observations are made on the introduction of the human figure and heraldic devices in glass painting, in all which

\* We should have been well pleased if he had specified the localities of all his examples. Perhaps he will in his next edition.—*Ed. L. G.*

the Rev. R. Winter Hamilton, which gained the Manchester prize for the best treatise on that subject.—Pp. 340; Hamilton, Adams, and Co.



we cordially agree with the writer (though not in the misprint spelling of Parrhasius, p. 20), and select the following as a specimen of his mode of treating the question:

"It must be admitted, however, that in several modern instances, pictorial representations seem to have been carried beyond their legitimate boundaries. The English windows executed during the last century, after the designs of Reynolds, West, and others, have been sufficiently commented on elsewhere, and need not be alluded to here. In Bavaria, however, where the art of painting on glass has been practised recently, the glass artists, although skilful in their manipulation, have lost sight of the leading principles of their art. They have carried their designs (many of which possess great merit) entirely across and from top to bottom of the windows, without regard to the interference of mullions or tracery. This is as absurd as if in a panelled room it were attempted to cover the entire wall with one picture, and despite the intervention of styles and mouldings, to continue a limb through one or more panels, though stretching out to three times its natural length. Like the French manufacturers of pictorial paper-hangings, such designers seem to make their cartoons without any reference to the size or shape of the windows for which they are intended, and then cut them into stripes to suit the various compartments for which chance may destine them. It surely is not pleasant to see a beautiful arm disavowed by a stone mullion, suggesting the disagreeable idea of amputation. Each compartment ought to be complete in itself. The subjects or figures also ought to be in some measure connected, and might either form a series of historical pictures or emblematic figures. But the idea of extending one single figure over a surface or plane in defiance of strongly marked interruptions, is absurd, and produces an effect much like what would result from an attempt to make a full length figure out of a head-size portrait, by adding limbs painted on separate canvasses, and encased in a separate frame."

Without going farther into the volume before us, we may, *en passant*, note on the foregoing quotation that the French furniture-paper (perhaps this is not meant to be included under the name pictorial) is at present by far the finest produced in Europe, whether we regard design or richness and harmony of colour, and we only wish the English manufacture could equal it, or be at the same price. With regard to glass-painting itself, the specimens we saw at York (in the British-Association Museum-room) and which have since, we believe, led to a commission for Ely Cathedral, displayed the highest qualities we have witnessed in this branch of English art.

*Portrait of Mrs. Bray.* Painted by W. Patten. Engraved by F. C. Lewis.

This is a soft and beautiful specimen of the art which expresses so much by the lightest of touches. The likeness of the celebrated authoress is intellectual and elevated: there is thought and imagination, and a tinge of sadness in the countenance, which does credit to Mr. Patten's powers; and the more so as the delicacy of the last-noticed sentiment does not convey a notion of grief or sorrow, but simply of tenderness and feeling. In these we recognise the traits which are so conspicuous in the works of Mrs. Bray: and we therefore at once acknowledge the skill of the artist who has so happily caught and delineated them. It is a literary portrait which very many will long to possess.

## ORIGINAL POETRY.

### TRIFLES.

How is it, o'er the strongest mind,  
That trifles hold such sway?  
A word—nay e'en a look unkind  
May darken all life's day.  
Oh, in this world of daily care,  
The thousands that have erred  
Can any hardship better bear  
Than they can bear a word!  
The man who with heroic heart  
Can stern misfortune meet,  
Unflinchingly perform his part,  
And struggle 'gainst defeat  
With faith unaltered,—yet can lose  
His temper, e'en for ought  
Which falls not as his will would choose,  
Or proves not what he sought!  
And woman can forgive a wrong  
Which casts her on the world  
Far better than forgive the tongue  
That may some sinner have hurried;  
A thousand times prefer a lot  
As hard as want deplores,  
Than feel or think herself forgot  
By one her heart adores!  
Alas, the human mould's at fault;  
And still by turns it claims  
A nobleness that can exalt,  
A littleness that shames!  
Of strength and weakness still combined,  
Compounded of the mean and grand;  
And trifles thus will shake the mind  
That would a tempest stand.  
Give me that soul-superior power,  
That conquest over fate,  
Which sways the weakness of the hour,  
Rules little things as great;  
That lulls the human waves of strife  
With words and feelings kind,  
And makes the trials of our life  
The triumphs of our mind!

CHARLES SWAIN.

## THE DRAMA.

*Haymarket.*—Twenty or thirty years ago, such bills as now announce the dramatic performances of the principal metropolitan theatres would have been reckoned derogatory to Saint Bartholemew's Fair, or the provincial rivalry of Camberwell, Peckham, Greenwich, or other booth-ery. It is difficult to gather from them exactly what they have to shew; but there is a confused statement about plays so "legitimate," that it is a wonder that *King Lear* can be done with the *Bastard*\* (necessarily repudiated by every legitimate mime) in it; and of every principal character being by super-eminent persons, and tremendous, &c. applause just failing to blow the roofs off the houses every evening. Happily escaping from these calamities, we have only this week to notice two novelties here. On Wednesday, Miss Faucit and Mr. Anderson appeared in the *Stranger*; the latter for the first time. This Germanic compound of error and feeling, whatever may and must be said against its immoral morality, has never failed to touch the sympathies of the English public. We will not say that every woman who cried on Wednesday was even in imagination a Mrs. Haller, or every man who blubbered or disguised his snivelling in unison was a "Stranger" to the sort of thing in progress on the stage; but we can truly state that there was a plentiful supply of weeping from both sexes. This has been held to be the best proof of successful performance, and most applicable to what may be called the domestic or matrimonial and parental pathetic, in contradistinction to the grand and high-stilted tragical. Indeed, Mr. Anderson has studied his part with great effect; and Miss Faucit is acknowledged to be a very charming and affecting Mrs. H. We have only to add, that Miss Fortescue displayed far more than common talent

\* Yet spiritedly and excellently played by Wallace.

in playing up to her (as it is called) in the *Countess Winterset*: it was a performance of the finest taste, discrimination, and skill,—such merits as secondary characters alone can educe from real talent. The comic parts were clever and amusing.—*Who's the Composer?* a new two-act comic drama, followed, and its sprightliness served to dry the tears elicited by the *Stranger*. Tilbury, Buckstone, and Hudson, are all implicated in the composition of a serenade, which brings its author, whoever he may be, into tribulation. Their humours salt the piece; Hudson has a popular new song. Miss Fortescue and Julia Bennett are the ladies interested; and the whole goes off in an exceedingly pleasing way. We do not know who the composer (from the French?) is; but we may congratulate him and the public on a very agreeable and plaudited drama.

## VARIETIES.

*Opening of Lincoln's-Inn Hall.*—This fine building was opened on Thursday by the Queen and Prince Albert, to whom, and their courtly attendants, a handsome *déjeuner* was given. It appears from the newspapers that the reporters were not well accommodated, and consequently left the ceremony in a huff. There seems to be a considerable spirit of antagonism between the bar and the periodical press.

*Electrotyping by Chance?* On re-coppering the Bentineck, in India, a curious circumstance was observed and mentioned at the Asiatic Society. On stripping off a sheet of copper, on which, before it was nailed on, two years ago, the words "two foot" had (as well as sundry other marks in the same material) been written with chalk, "the writing and marks appeared in high relief on the surface of the sheet, presenting a not distant resemblance to an electrotype deposition. It did not, however, seem that the chalk had protected the copper, which it covered, from corrosion, but had attracted as it were the copper from the solution of the neighbouring parts. The question, however, is well deserving closer examination and inquiry."—*Calcutta Star.*

*Young England, or Young Cornwall.*—The local journal conveys to us the following important intelligence, touching the march of intellect, the progress of Young Cornwall, and the case of the schoolmaster abroad. "On Monday morning last an interesting discussion took place between the *Boys* of the Falmouth British School and Mr. Coombe, the *Master*, concerning school offences and punishments. Propositions were made by the *Master*, and unanimously agreed to by the *Boys*, to test the practicability of laying aside entirely the use of the rod. The experiment has been tried for the week, and an eye-witness is happy to state that the cheerfulness, diligence, and order of the boys have never been exceeded; thus since Monday morning last 192 boys have been governed without the infliction of one stripe." After some discussion, it was (rumour adds) agreed to upon principle

That none of the ushers, nor Master Coombe, Should ever be liable to Birch or to Broom.

*Sir Matthew Tierney, Bart.*—This eminent physician and gentleman of much literary accomplishment died on Tuesday at Brighton, after a short illness of gout. He was in his 69th year, and had long lived in habits of intimacy and friendship with the highest and most intellectual society. His manners were peculiarly pleasing.

*Lord Lyttelton* has been installed principal of Queen's College, Birmingham; and after

addressing the assembly in an appropriate manner, presided over the distribution of the prizes awarded to the successful students.

*Count Cassini*, the astronomer, and last of the famous name, member of the Academy of Sciences, formerly director of the Royal Observatory of Paris, chevalier of the order of St. Lewis and Legion of Honour, died on the 18th ult., at his chateau of Thury sous Clermont (Oise), aged 90.

*Grasshoppers at Sea*.—Captain Hager, of the bark *Marcella*, brought home a preserved grasshopper, of the size of a man's thumb, as a sample of an immense field through which he sailed for five days. He fell in with them off the Western Islands, and the presumption was, that they were blown off from Africa. The water was heavily crusted with them, the grasshoppers filling the surface to the depth of some inches, and extending in the course of the bark for 400 miles.—*Hongkong Register*.

*Tweedledum and Tweedledee*.—The lessees of Drury Lane and the Princess's Theatre have got up a pretty whet for the public appetite in a dispute about the music of the *Diable à Quatre*. Mr. Bunn quotes a letter from M. Escudier (calling Mr. Madox any thing but a gentleman), assuring him that he alone is entitled to perform the genuine music of M. Adolphe Adam, any other pretension to the score being mere fudge; but on the contrary, Mr. Madox declares that he is the true Simon Pure, and cites a letter from M. Jullien, which states that he (Jullien) had purchased the copyright from the composer, and conveyed it, "note for note," as played at the Académie, for the legal and sole use of Mr. Madox. Thus we have Bunn, Escudier, Madox, and Jullien, all *Diable à Quatre*.

*Ceylon Tanks and Canals*.—The importance of these reservoirs and means of communication is so great, that their recovery from the condition into which neglect and other circumstances had allowed them to fall, has long been a great desideratum. We are therefore glad to read in the latest newspapers that Mr. Nelson has just completed for government a dredging machine, to be worked by four bullocks, for clearing them out. The novelty in this machine is the application of the power by revolving platforms on which the bullocks tread; and this contrivance is the more creditable to Mr. Nelson's ingenuity and experience, inasmuch as in conversation we have been assured by no less than three other engineers that it would not answer. Of its perfect success, however, there cannot be a doubt, as the surveyor-general has seen it in action, and completely approves of it.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Mr. Hunt, who has so much distinguished himself in the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, and is now curator of the Museum of Economic Geology in London, is announced in the *Falmouth Packet* as "preparing for the press a work on the Poetry of Science."

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Poetical Works of Oliver Goldsmith, illustrated by wood-engravings by members of the Etching Club, with a Biographical Memoir, edited by B. Corney, 8vo, 21s. cloth; 36s. morocco.—*The Maxims of Francis Guicciardini*, translated by Emma Martin, square fep. 8vo, 7s. boards; 14s. morocco.—*Mrs. Bray's Novels and Romances*: Vol. VII. Trelawney, fep. 8vo, 6s.—*Transactions of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London*, Vol. XXVIII.: Second Series, Vol. X. 21s. boards.—*Githa of the Forest*, 3 vols. post 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d.—*Brownie's Religio Medici*, &c., edited by H. Gardner, 12mo, 6s.—*The Youth and Manhood of Cyri Thornton*, new edit., fep., 3s. 6d. sewed; 4s. 6d. cloth.—*Dr. Young's Lectures on Natural Philosophy*, new edit., by the Rev. P. Kelland, 2 vols. 8vo, 24s.—*The Life of Joseph, a Course of Lectures*, by the Rev. E. Dalton, 12mo, 6s.—*The Palace of Fantasy*, and

other Poems, by J. S. Hardy, 12mo, 3s. 6d.—*Grant's Chancery Practice*, 5th edit., 2 vols. post 8vo, 38s.—*The Impostor, by the Author of "Anti-Comingsby,"* 3 vols. post 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d.—*Creation by the Immediate Agency of God (a Refutation of "Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation")*, by T. M. Mason, post 8vo, 5s.—*The Gospel Narrative*, by the Rev. J. Forster, royal 8vo, 15s.—*The Wonder-Seeker*, by Miss. M. F. Tytler, fep. 4s. 6d.—*Lectures upon the Collects*, by the Rev. F. D. Lempiere, First Series, 8vo, 12s.—*Virgili Opera cum Annotationibus*, by T. K. Arnold, Vol. II., 8vo, 12s.—*Bedford's Chart of the Architecture of Westminster Abbey*, in case, 7s. 6d.—*Statutes*, 8 and 9 Vict., 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d. boards.—*Passages from English Authors for Translation in Greek and Latin*, by Rev. H. Alford, 8vo, 6s.—*Finden's Beauties of Moore*, imp. 4to, 2l. 2s. mor.—*Brief Discourse on the Troubles begun at Frankfurt in 1534 about the Book of Common Prayer and Ceremonies*, post 8vo, 6s.—*Tuck's Railway Shareholder's Manual*, fep., 12mo, 6s.—*The Good Shepherd and the Chosen Flock*, by the Rev. T. Dale, fep. 5s.—*The Book of Common Prayer, illuminated*, royal 8vo, 2l. 5s. cloth; 3l. 3s. mor.—*The Dawn of Life, or Scripture Conversations*, by a Clergyman, fep. 3s. 6d.—*Lessons on the Miracles of our Lord*, by the Author of "Lessons on Objects," fep. 3s. 6d.—*Eight Dissertations on some Proprietary Passages of Scripture*, by S. E. Faber, 2 vols. 8vo, 21s.—*Record and Writ Practice of Court of Chancery*, by J. Veal, 2d edit., 12mo, 5s.—*Dunster Castle, a Romance*, by J. T. Hewlett, 3 vols. post 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d.—*Melaia, and other Poems*, by Eliza Cook, 3d edit., post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—*The Music-Lover's Hand-Book*, by F. J. Fétis, translated and abridged, square, 2s. 6d.—*Arra's Noll*, by G. P. R. James, 3 vols. post 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d.—*Billings on the Law of Awards and Arbitrations*, 8vo, 14s.—*Wise Saws and Modern Instances*, by Thomas Cooper, 2 vols. post 8vo, 15s.—*Manual of Heraldry*, fep. 4s.—*How's Illustrated Book of British Song*, Vol. II., folio, 21s.—*Memoirs of the Jacobites of 1715 and 1745*, by Mrs. Thomson, 2 vols. 8vo, 28s.—*Jack Hornet, or the March of Intelligence*, 3 vols. post 8vo, 17. 11s. 6d.—*The United States Exploring Expedition (Popular Library Edition)*, 1 vol. 8vo, 10s. 6d. cloth.—*Statutes*, 8 and 9 Victoria, royal 8vo, 17s. 6d.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are sorry to repudiate the poem of "The Metamorphosis," so kindly sent us all the way from Pennsylvania; but notwithstanding the poetical mind and the talent of the fair writer, we cannot give her American descriptions European circulation.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

##### LITERATURE AND ART.

**ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.**—THE FIRST ORDINARY MEETING of this Society for the Session 1845-46 will be held at 5 WATERLOO PLACE, PICCADILLY, on MONDAY, 10th inst., at half-past 8 p.m.  
Nov. 1, 1845. J. R. JACKSON, Secretary.

##### HIGH SCHOOL OF EDINBURGH.

**THE LORD PROVOST, MAGISTRATES, and COUNCIL**, the Patrons of the School, this day resolved to ELEGY till this day four weeks, the 25th of November, the ELECTION of a Gentleman to fill the Office of RECTOR, vacant by the retirement of Dr. CANAN.  
City Chambers, Edinburgh,  
28th October 1845.

##### ROYAL HIBERNIAN ACADEMY.

**ANNUAL EXHIBITION.**—Exhibitors are requested to take notice that all Works of Art intended for the next Annual Exhibition of the Royal Hibernian Academy, must be sent into the Academy, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, on or before the 5th of April, 1846, after which no works can be received.  
By order.

Academy House,  
Lower Abbey Street, Dublin,  
25th October, 1845.  
GEORGE PETRIE, R.H.A.,  
Secretary.

##### MISCELLANEOUS.

**GREAT RUSSIAN CHRONOMETRICAL EXPEDITION.**—F. J. DENT, 82 Strand, and 25, Queen's Street, has the highest honor and pleasure in announcing that his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia has recently condescended to confer on him "the appointment and title of Chronometer-Maker to his Imperial Majesty," as a reward for the unexpected performance of his Chronometers during the Expedition of 1844. In 1845, his Imperial Majesty the Emperor was pleased to reward the performance of Dent's Chronometers with a Gold Medal of the highest Order of Merit.  
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